

"THE 41 PARABLES OF JESUS CHRIST" 28 general parables and 13 kingdom of heaven parables Parable #39 – "PERSISTENT WIDOW & UNJUST JUDGE" Luke 18:1-4,5-8 The 25th of 28 general parables

BACKGROUND:

In 445BC, with **one Bible week** equating to **seven years** (a prophetic year being 360 days), God commanded that **seventy weeks** each of **7 years**, would be determined upon Israel, that is ... **70 weeks** x **7 years** = **490 years** (<u>Daniel 9:24-27</u>).

This time frame is broken into **four** time periods of (a) **7 weeks +** (b) **62 weeks +** (c) the mystery church age of about 2,000 years **+** (d) **1 week = 70 weeks** and is explained as follows:

#1. Seven weeks of years is $7 \times 7 = 49$ years ... the time it takes to restore and build Jerusalem from 445BC to 396BC.

#2. Sixty two weeks of years is $62 \times 7 = 434$ years ... the time from the building of Jerusalem in 396BC to Christ being cut off at the cross in 32AD.

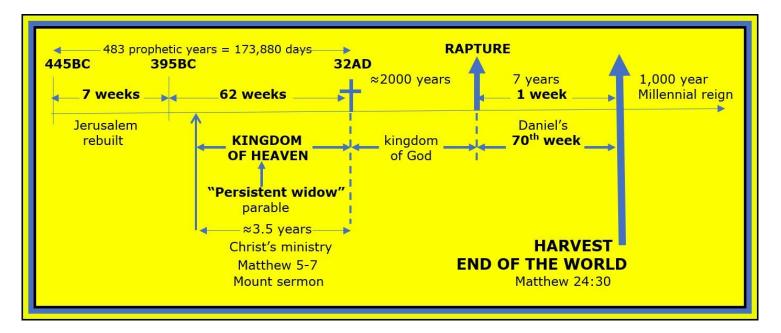
#3. The church age of approximately 2,000 years

#4. **One week** of years is $1 \times 7 = 7$ years ... this is the seven years of tribulation of God's wrath upon the earth, that takes place after the rapture ... called **Daniel's 70th week**.

The following **Timeline** will help (not drawn to scale):

DANIEL 9:24-26,27

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city ... from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks ... after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off ... he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week ..."



Luke 18:1-4,5-8

Parents, as we go through this parable, keep in mind the persistent annoying child that keeps after what he wants ... he gets it eventually but it may not be good for him.

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; = here is the key dear Reader ... pray ... HOWEVER not to keep doing like this importunately annoying woman

Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: = this is the way of the world. He was an unsaved judge. When a Christian prays, he prays to the eternal and 'saved' Judge ... as it were. God is just.

And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me = this is like the spoilt child that gets what he wants

And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. = this judge is unjust, God is not.

And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth? = yes God will do it in his own time, own way and according to his will. This will be the just God's way of answering.

LESSONs:

1. This parable is misapplied by Christian today ... whose mantra is "I want it and I want it now" rather than exercising the following ...

"And we know that **all things work together for good** to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (<u>Romans 8:28</u>)

"**Giving thanks always for all things** unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;" (<u>Ephesians 5:20</u>)

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication **with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God**." (<u>Philippians 4:6</u>)

"Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In **every thing give thanks:** for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (<u>1 Thessalonians 5:16-18</u>)

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a **sound mind**." (<u>2 Timothy 1:7</u>)

2. Dear Reader, let us use some common sense when praying. Stop the **ANNOYING** CHILD ROUTINE ... GROW UP when praying ... otherwise your prayers become prayers of unbelief ... "I've got squeaky wheels and I'll get the oil because I'll keep bashing on God's door!

For example ...

"I wonder if God has heard me ... I'll keep trying?" ... unbelief.

"If he has, why hasn't he answered my request?" ... unbelief.

"When can I expect an answer?" ... unbelief.

"If God loved me, he would give me what I want!" ... unbelief.

"God has dropped asleep!" ... unbelief.

"God must not love me!" ... unbelief.

"Hurry up God ... I'm waiting!" ... unbelief.

3. God is not a Santa Claus flying all over the world ... giving in to all sorts of prayers ... because he needs relief from being bugged night and day ... like the unjust judge! God answers all prayers four ways ... **1. Yes 2. No 3. Not now 4. Never**

4. The parable teaches always to pray but to **do it in the right way**. Be persistent of course, but with God's will, God's way and God's time. We mistake the woman's actions as being the replacement for praying the right way.

5. Christians pray to the just Judge. God is not one to forget the Christian's requests if prayed with a thankful heart. There is **no mention** of this importunate woman seeking the judge with thanksgiving.

"Dear God, here is my request and I am so thankful, that you have heard me ... and as it please you God, I will mention it to you from time to time ... as you lead."

(<u>Romans 8:28</u>)

(Ephesians 5:20)

(*Philippians 4:6*) (*1Thessalonians 5:16-18*)

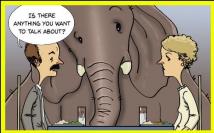
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