****

EXPERIENCING ANSWERED PRAYER AFTER REPEATED FAILURES

Luke 18:1-8

Luke 18:1, Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should ALWAYS PRAY and NOT GIVE UP.

* Answered prayer often requires far more perseverance than we think or hope it will!

Habakkuk 2:14; Romans 16:7; Isaiah 52:12-13

Understanding The Intercessory Ministry of Jesus

Isaiah 53:12, . . . For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

* The Hebrew word intercession *(paga)* means to meet together in order to make an impact.

Hebrews 7:24-25, 24 . . . because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood**.** 25Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

Two characters in the parable:

1. An unjust judge doesn’t fear God or care what people think.
2. A persistent widow determined to experience justice.

Romans 8:22-28, 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship . . . 26 . . . the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us throughwordlessgroans. 27And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God.28And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who lovehim, whohave been called according to his purpose.

Receiving Jesus Intercessory Ministry

1. Seek help from OUR INJUSTICE

Luke 18:1-3, 1 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should alwayspray and notgiveup. 2He said: “In a certain town there was ajudge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. 3And there was awidow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grantmejustice against my adversary.’

* The intercessory ministry of Jesus positions us for blessing ONLY GOD can lead us into and empower!

Luke 18:4-5, 4 “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, 5yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she getsjustice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

Romans 8:28-30, 28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have beencalledaccording to his purpose . . . 30And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

1. Trust OUR INTERCESSOR sent by God

Luke 18:6-8, 6 And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly**.** However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

* Only experiencing the intercessory ministry of Jesus in the Holy Spirit can position us for God’s highest blessing!

Common enemies to experiencing Jesus Intercession:

1. A lack of faith that God is for me. (Romans 8:31)
2. A lack of faith that God will graciously give us everything needed for His plan to prevail. (Romans 8:32)
3. A lack of understanding God longs to guide ALL through failures and troubles into His incomparably rich blessing. (Romans 8:33-37)

Romans 8:31-37

Questions:

1. What did you hear from the Holy Spirit?
2. What will you do because of it?
3. How can we pray for you?

