



THE THEOLOGY OF KNEE- OLOGY

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“Here Comes That Pain in the Neck Again”

Luke 18:1 – 8 (NASB 1995)

February 18, 2024

Bob Walpole, Guest Speaker

For over forty years Pastor Bob Walpole has found joy in his calling to preach and teach the inspired Word of God and Shepherd God's people. The emphasis of his pulpit ministry is the careful study and exposition of the Bible, and its application to our daily lives. During his years as a senior pastor, he served three California churches in San Diego, San Jose, and Santa Paula. For the past seven years, God has lead Bob to encourage and serve local churches through pulpit supply and as an Interim Pastor with an emphasis on training and supporting Pastor Search Teams. Bob holds a Master of Arts degree from Louisiana Baptist Theological Seminary. Bob and his wife, Cheryl, live in Ventura County, and have two adult children; and three grandchildren. Cheryl is currently serving as Substitute Teaching Leader for Bible Study Fellowship in Camarillo. When Bob is not speaking, they are excited to call ENCOUNTER their church home.

MESSAGE NOTES

Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart, saying, “In a certain city there was a judge who did not fear God and did not respect man. There was a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, ‘Give me legal protection from my opponent.’ For a while he was unwilling; but afterward he said to himself, ‘Even though I do not fear God nor respect man, yet because this widow bothers me, I will give her legal protection, otherwise by continually coming she will wear me out.’” And the Lord said, “Hear what the unrighteous judge said; now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them? I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?” – Luke 18:1 – 8 (NASB 1995)

1. The Cry of the Widow

- **Her disadvantage (vs. 3)**

There was a widow in that city ...

- **Her demand (vs. 3)**

“Give me legal protection ...”

- **Her desperation (vs. 3)**

“... from my opponent.”



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2. The Coldness of the Judge

- **He was corrupt (vs. 2)**

"In a certain city there was a judge who did not fear God and did not respect man."

- **He was calloused (vs. 4)**

"For a while he was unwilling; ..."

3. The Contrast with Our Father

- **He honors those who pray (vs.7 – 8)**

"... now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them? I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly."

- **He hears those who pray (vs. 6)**

"Hear what the unrighteous judge said; ..."

4. The Challenge to the Church

- **Be consistent in prayer (vs. 1)**

"Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times ..."

- **Be committed to prayer (vs.1)**

"... they ought to pray ..."

- **Be comforted by prayer (vs.1)**

"... and not to lose heart,"



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS TO GET YOU THINKING!

- What is a parable? (vs.1) Choose one.
 - A.** An old wives' tale
 - B.** A succinct story that illustrates one or more instructive lessons or principles.
 - C.** A story from a children's book
- What were the unfavorable characteristics of the judge? (vs. 2)
- Please read verse 3. What did the widow request?
- Please read verse 1. How does the parable of the persistent widow encourage you in your prayer life?
- Consider verse 1 again. In your own words, what does it mean to lose heart?
- What is the main point of this parable? Choose one.
 - A.** It pays to pester God
 - B.** There are corrupt judges
 - C.** The judge was a corrupt man, but even he rendered a just verdict. How much more will your Heavenly Father, who is just, hear and honor those who ask anything according to His will?
- Based on this parable, what changes in your prayer life does Jesus want you to make?