

New Covenant Presbyterian Church - PCA

2525 N. Buckner Blvd., Dallas, TX 75228

www.NCPCDallas.org NCPCDallas@aol.com (214) 321-6435

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Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit

Invocation – *We welcome God to this service and seek His blessing*

Morning Sermon Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

PERSISTENCE IN PRAYER

Foundational Teaching on Prayer

The Call to Worship Psalm 86

*Hymn No. 521 *Redeemed* (vs. 1, 3, 4)

Scripture Reading Luke 18:1-8

The Anthem

*Doxology

Sermon Continued Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

Today's Parable - The Persistent Widow

*Hymn No. 58 *This Is My Father's World*

The Offering of Thanks and Praise

Offertory

Morning Prayer

Hymn No. 435 *What a Friend we have in Jesus* (vs 3)

Sermon Applied

The Concern
The Application

Song of Response

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction No. 43 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (refrain)

Postlude

PERSISTENCE IN PRAYER

What does our prayer reveal about our faith?

Luke 18:1-8

Background - Foundational Teaching on Prayer:

A. Matthew 6:5-14

B. I Thessalonians 5:17

Today's Parable: – The Persistent Widow

Purpose – To teach that we should always pray and not give up.

I. The Characters:

A. Judge (neither feared God nor cared about men).

B. Widow (seeking justice against her adversary)

C. Adversary (not identified but persistent injustice moved the widow to seek justice from the judge.)

II. The Action:

A. Widow persistently goes to the Judge seeking justice.

B. Judge grants justice to keep the widow from wearing him out.

III. The Comparison: *to God* (mirrored observations)

A. God will respond more readily than this unjust Judge.

B. He will quickly grant justice.

IV. The Concern:

However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?

V. The Application:

A. On a scale of 1-10 (10= High) – How would you evaluate your faith? _____

B. On that same scale (1-10) – How would you evaluate your prayer persistence (time in prayer alone ... not at meal time)? _____

C. Your 'prayer persistence' score actually reveals your true 'faith score.'

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements
Choral Introit

Invocation – *We welcome God to this service and seek His blessing*

Morning Sermon Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

PERSISTENCE IN PRAYER
Foundational Teaching on Prayer

The Call to Worship Psalm 86

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord; listen to my cry for mercy.

C: In the day of my trouble I will call to you, for you will answer me.

P: Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord; no deeds can compare with yours. All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name. For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God.

C: Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

P: I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever.

C: For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths of the grave.

*Hymn No. 521 *Redeemed* (vs. 1, 3, 4)

Redeemed—how I love to proclaim it! Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; redeemed thru His infinite mercy —

His child, and forever, I am.

*Redeemed, redeemed, redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
redeemed, redeemed, His child, and forever, I am.*

I think of my blessed Redeemer. I think of Him all the day long;
I sing, for I cannot be silent; His love is the theme of my song.

*Redeemed, redeemed, redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
redeemed, redeemed, His child, and forever, I am.*

I know I shall see in His beauty the King in whose law I delight,
Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps and giveth me songs in the
night.

Redeemed, redeemed, redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
redeemed, redeemed, His child, and forever, I am.

Scripture Reading Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ²He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. ³And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

⁴“For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care about men, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually wear me out with her coming!’ ”

⁶And 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?”

The Anthem

*Doxology

Sermon Continued Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor
Today’s Parable - The Persistent Widow

*Hymn No. 58 *This Is My Father’s World*

This is my Father’s world, and to my listening ears all nature sings,
And round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world! I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas—His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world—the birds their carols raise;
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world! He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass—He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world—O let me ne'er forget
That tho the wrong seems oft so strong God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world! The battle is not done; Jesus who died
shall be satisfied, and earth and heav'n be one.

The Offering of Thanks and Praise

Offertory

Morning Prayer

Hymn No. 435 *What a Friend we have in Jesus* (vs 3)

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee—Thou wilt find a solace there.

Sermon Applied

The Concern
The Application

Song of Response

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction No. 43 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (*refrain*)

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided –
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Postlude