



The Vintage Newsletter-Fall Edition

“Passionate and Persistent Prayer”

Jesus was passionate about many things: salvation for the lost, healing and deliverance for those who are lame and hurting, life and death decisions-eternal life and he was especially passionate about prayer. Jesus was not apathetic or indifferent, but was fervent and passionate in his prayer life. He prayed early in the morning while it was still dark outside. Mark 1:35: At other times Jesus continued all night in prayer in mountains and desert places. He prayed with such agony, fervency and intensity that the scripture says his sweat was as if it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. *“And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.” Luke 6:12*

As Intercessors and Prayer Warriors, we may not sweat drops of blood in prayer but we do know we should always pray and not faint. The world, nation, state, city, community, homes/families as well as men and women in authority need much prayer, and it's imperative for the body of Christ to pray with *passion and persistence*. Prayer is arduous requiring determination and fortitude, never give up and never throw in the towel, but pressing in and pushing through in prayer until spiritual deliverance and breakthrough comes.

We must be like the widow woman that was persistent in coming before an unjust judge asking him to give legal remedy from her adversaries. We are familiar with this parable as outlined in Luke 18:1-8

“And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: 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. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. 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.”

At first glance it appears the unjust judge lacked compassion and sensitivity toward a widow woman who perhaps was still grieving over the lost of her husband. The judge understood that according to Jewish customs and laws widows had no legal remedy for their security and well being and if so, it rested in the hands of their children or the widow's husband's family. This story doesn't indicate who the widow woman's adversaries are but we know the judge was unwilling to hear her case and a verdict in her favor was outside the judge's jurisdiction and unlikely. Moreover, the unrighteous judge did not fear God or respect public opinion regarding his legal decisions, neither did he give little credence to her issue but viewed her petitioning him as an intolerable annoyance and aggravation. .

At the end of the widow woman's case the unjust judge issued a statement "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" It was through the widow woman's Passionate and Persistent Prayer that God changed the unrighteous judge's heart. Afterwards, he said because the widow woman troubles me by her continual coming I will vindicate her circumstances

As believers we are challenged to stay in our place of prayer, fervently praying with determination, passion and perseverance never giving up on God for he will never give up on you.

Lady Kathy Walker

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I am the True Vine and my Father is the Husbandman