
I'm Still Standing in Holiness, Part III (The Power of Continuous Prayer)

The Requirements of Holiness

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Sermon: The Requirements of Holiness: I'm Still Standing in Holiness, Part III (The Power of Continuous Prayer)

New Series Messages: "The Requirements of Holiness"

- Theme Scriptures:
 - 1 Peter 1:15–16 “To Be Holy”
 - Micah 6:8 “The Requirements of Holiness”
- Sermon: The Righteousness of Holiness (Doing Justly)
- Sermon: The Forgiveness of Holiness (Loving Mercy)
- Sermon: The Meekness of Holiness (Walking Humbly)
- Sermon: Standing Still in Holiness
- Sermon: I'm Still Standing in Holiness, Part I (Knowing Your True Enemy)
- Sermon: I'm Still Standing in Holiness, Part II (Standing on the Word of God)
 - I'm Still Standing with the Truth (Holding on to the Word)
 - I'm Still Standing with the Gospel (Sharing the Word)
 - I'm Still Standing with the Sword (Using the Word)

Lesson Text

Ephesians 6:17–18 (AV)¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: ¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Luke 18:1–8 (AV)¹ And he spake a parable unto them *to this end*, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; ² Saying, **There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:** ³ **And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.** ⁴ **And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;** ⁵ **Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.** ⁶ And the Lord said, **Hear what the unjust judge saith.** ⁷ **And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?** ⁸ **I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?**

Introduction

Holiness is a lifestyle, and when we walk in it, it allows us to Stand!

- We Stand Still when lost in the Wilderness, running in Fear, or attacked by the enemy so we can See the Salvation of Lord
- We are Still Standing because we Know our Enemy
- We are Still Standing when we put on the Whole Armor of God and Stand on His Word

Finally, we look at the Power of Prayer that allows us to be found Still Standing!

Our primary lesson text opens with a teaching of our Lord and Savior to his disciples about the power of persistence prayer.

Jesus tells them about a widow woman, who at that time would have had no power in a male dominated culture. Yet through her persistence, was able to obtain her vengeance from a Judge who had no fear of man nor God.

Luke 18: ³ **And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.** ⁴ **And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;** ⁵ **Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.**

Her adversaries assumed they could do anything they wanted to her because she had no man of power to protect and avenge her. But what they did not know was that she had persistence, that she would not give up, she would not ever give up!

Today we want to talk about what to do when the enemy has hit us with all he has, hit us with his best shot, and left us for dead. Leaving us in a powerless state in which all hope is lost.

But what our lesson teaches us is that with the power of persistent and constant prayer, when the enemy returns, he will find us STILL STANDING!

Series and Sermon: The Requirements of Holiness: I'm Still Standing in Holiness, Part III (The Power of Continuous Prayer)

"Continuous Prayer with Supplication, in the Spirit, and with Persistence or Determination"

I. Continuous Prayer with Supplication (Earnest Prayer)

Ephesians 6: 18 (AV) ¹⁸ Praying always **with all prayer and supplication** in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

In order for us to be found still standing, we must have continuous prayer with supplication.

Supplication is the form of prayer in which you ask or beg for something earnestly or humbly. To make a humble **pétition** or an entreaty to God.

The bible teaches us that Humility is the way to God; James 4:6 says, "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble"!

James 5:16 (AV)¹⁶ Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. **The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.**

"Effectual Fervent Prayer" is translated "Earnest Prayer"; and "Availeth Much" is translated "Has Great Power and Produces Wonderful Results".

Luke 18:¹ And he spake a parable unto them *to this end*, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; ² Saying, **There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:** ³

And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

John 10:10 (AV)¹⁰ The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it more abundantly*.

The reason why our prayers of supplication must be continuous is because the thief comes to steal our Great Power and Wonderful Results through delay, denial, interruption, suspension, and postponement. These devices of enemy frustrate us to the point that we give up and stop!

Luke 18: ⁴ And he would **not for a while**: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; ⁵ Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her **continual coming she weary me**.

She used her Great Power and got Wonderful Results because she was continuous, nonstop, unrelenting, and unceasing.

Our true power comes from our continuous, unrelenting, unceasing prayer!

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18 (AV)¹⁶ Rejoice evermore. ¹⁷ **Pray without ceasing**. ¹⁸ In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

II. Continuous Prayer in the Spirit (Unknown Prayer)

Ephesians 6: 18 (AV) ¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication **in the Spirit**, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

The second key to be found still standing is the unknown prayer or praying in the Spirit.

The reason why this form of prayer is necessary is because too many times we pray the wrong prayer or pray for the wrong thing.

James 4:2–3 (AV)² Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. ³ **Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts**.

Now what James is eluding to is that although you are asking, you're using the wrong person to determine the ask; namely yourself, your flesh, and your heart.

Jeremiah 17:⁹ The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

So, we have to stop using ourselves, our emotions, our flesh, or heart; but use the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:26 (AV)²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: **for we know not what we should pray for** as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

There are times where you can't trust your heart, you can't trust your soul, you can't trust your emotions; so, you have to lean and depend on God.

Now the reason why praying the Spirit is unknown, is because God doesn't want your heart, your emotions, or your flesh to get in the way of your prayer!

Proverbs 3:5–6 (AV)⁵ Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. ⁶In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

III. Continuous Prayer with Persistence (Determined Prayer)

Ephesians 6: 18 (AV) ¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto **with all perseverance** and supplication for all saints;

The reason why we are still standing is because

- We Continuously Pray with Supplication and it has great power and wonderful results
- We Continuously Pray in the Spirit because we don't know, but the Spirit knows
- Finally, We Continuously Pray with Persistence because God will Avenge us

To pray with all perseverance is to pray with persistence and determination.

Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. **Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers** for all believers everywhere.

Luke 18: ⁵ Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. ⁶ And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. ⁷ And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? ⁸ I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

Persistent Prayer is Unwavering Prayer, Dogged Prayer, Stubborn Prayer, Unwavering Prayer, Resolute Prayer, Determined Prayer!

When we continuously prayer with persistence, we stop worrying, because God's got it!

Philippians 4:6–7 (AV)⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Romans 12:19–21 (AV)¹⁹ Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance *is* mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. ²⁰ Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. ²¹ Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

God's Got This!

- Pray Persistently because God's got this! Pray Unwavering because God's got this!
- Pray Doggedly because God's got this! Pray Resolutely because God's got this!
- Pray with Ceasing because God's got this! Pray Determined because God's got this!

Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: I'm Still Standing in Holiness, Part III (The Power of Continuous Prayer))

Lesson Text

- Ephesians 6:17–18, Luke 18:1–8

Sermon Outline (Notes)

I. *Continuous Prayer with Supplication (Earnest Prayer)*

II. *Continuous Prayer in the Spirit (Unknown Prayer)*

III. *Continuous Prayer with Persistence (Determined Prayer)*

Questions

I. *Getting to Know “Me”*

1. Name one person that is not a family member that has had the greatest influence in your life.
2. What is the strangest thing you have ever eaten?

II. *Into the Bible*

1. Read Luke 18:10-14. Did the Pharisee do everything “right”, (he prayed, he fasted, and paid his tithes)? So, why was the Publican justified when he prayed and the Pharisee was not?
2. Now read Luke 18:15-17. Verse 16 AMPC reads, “But Jesus called them [the parents] to Him, saying, Allow the little children to come to Me, and do not hinder them, for to such [as these] belongs the kingdom of God.” Define the Kingdom of God. Why must believers be as little children?

III. *Life Application*

1. What are the things that can interfere with or hinder your personal habit of prayer? What is your plan to prevent this from happening?
2. What are the things that encourage you to pray persistently? How can you develop these things?