



**VOLUME: 20 / ISSUE: 12**

**PREVAILING IN PRAYER**

**DECEMBER 2020**

First of all, this newsletter is Part 1 of 2 parts. This matter is so important I'm unable to exegete our Scripture text in only one newsletter. I trust you prefer to receive the whole message in two newsletters rather than a watered down, incomplete message in one newsletter. We need to thoroughly understand where we are and how near America is to the judgment of God. Without national repentance we cannot escape.

During the last four years we have witnessed prosperity on a scale never seen before, but we failed as a nation to repent of our sins. Sadly, our nation has grown more lawless. Let me state two irrefutable facts concerning false prophets and false teachers: First, they never preach against sin and, second, they never preach repentance.

Here are the first words recorded of Christ, *"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel"* (Mark 1:15). In spite of the tremendous prosperity blessings over the last four years, the church never cried out for national repentance. Prosperity causes people to forget God, which is very dangerous. Agur (possibly Solomon) well defined the danger of prosperity, *"... feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD?"* (Proverbs 30:8-9).

Today's Scripture text is **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?*

Presently, America is in one of its greatest throes and battles since the Civil War. As of this writing, the Electoral College has not yet cast its votes to declare the winner of the 2020 election. The only way we're going to navigate and survive the perils of this present hour is through prayer.

In our Scripture text, we are admonished to pray always: meaning on all occasions, and especially like the one we presently face. Jesus decreed: *"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye received them, and ye shall have them"* (Mark 11:24). As God's people, it's up to us to transform the environment in which we live. The apostle Paul declared, *"Pray without ceasing"* (1 Thessalonians 5:17). This is an hour in which we should love the labor and possess hopeful patience while waiting upon the Lord to divinely intervene.

The apostle James declares, *"The effectual fervent prayer of a*

*righteous man availeth much"* (James 5:16). The prayer of a just man is wrought by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the impetus behind true prayer. Jude describes a fervent prayer this way: *"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost"* (Jude 20). Prayer builds one's faith, which is accomplished through the Holy Spirit. Prayer edifies the church, the body of Christ. The more the saints minister through prayer, the greater the edification within the Lord's church.

The psalmist declared: *"... call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me"* (Psalm 50:15). America is in grave danger. This is why we need to call upon the name of our Lord. Through His delivering power, we, in return, glorify His holy name.

This admonition concerning prayer is followed by another; to never faint. In verse 1, the Greek word *ekkakeo* means "to be utterly spiritless, wearied, exhausted". America is at a spiritual crossroads, and *now is not the time to give up!*

In verse 2 of our text, it refers to *"a city"*. I declare this city represents Washington, D.C. Christ, in verse 1, relates the necessity for prayer and brings to our attention a certain judge regarding this unjust matter. A judge decides or adjudicates a matter. Jesus said this judge *"feared not God"*: he had no godly reverence whatsoever. This judge *"neither regarded man"*: he respected no one, no matter their authority or office held.

In verse 3, we see a widow in prayer. I sense in my spirit this widow represents believers in a time

of sorrow and bereavement over our supposed conservative loss in the 2020 election, the same as the widow mourning the loss of her husband.

Many reading this may be weak and anemic, like an aged widow. In spite of our weakness and age, we boldly petition a righteous Judge – Jesus Christ – asking Him to avenge or punish flagrant corruptness.

Like you, I am tired of a double standard of justice in America.

Something has been tremendously pressed into my spirit for several months when praying. That is, when God visited Abraham and shared His heart concerning Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham besought Elohim: *Surely the Judge of all the earth will not destroy the righteous with the wicked.*

I am extremely concerned by the magnitude of corruptness pervading this once-great nation. For the most part, our leaders have become totally godless and their wickedness will bring judgment upon this nation. I'm clinging to Abraham's statement when he said to Elohim that it *"be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked"* (Genesis 18:25). That phrase resonates within my spirit every day and gives me pause concerning judgment in America. America is rotten, corrupt, and full of putrefying sores as the prophet Isaiah declared (Isaiah 1:6).

Many governmental leaders and ministries will be exposed in this coming judgment. Hillsong Church in New York just took a terrible hit from its pastor falling into sin. As blood-bought, born-again believers, we are petitioning Jehovah for justice, not only within our personal lives, but for the future of our nation.

Just as this widow petitioned this judge to avenge her; so it is with the people of God today. Judgment is not in the hands of the church; rather judgment is in the hands of Christ

our Lord; the *righteous Judge*. The apostle James declared: *"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath [to take vengeance]: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God"* (James 1:19-20).

As believers, we dare not take to the streets and be partakers of civil unrest within our nation: however, I do believe in the self-defense of our families. The apostle Paul warned the church, *"Dearly beloved, avenge [retaliate] not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath [vengeance]: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord"* (Romans 12:19). As believers, we need to understand the sovereignty of God and that He remains in control no matter what we witness.

Let me be very clear: people want to know; *should we take to the streets?* Only in self-defense; here's why: *"For the wrath [vengeance] of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness"* (Romans 1:18). Sadly but truthfully, this is the state of our national leaders: they say they possess the truth but wield the truth in wicked unrighteousness.

We need to understand, not only is the Gospel of salvation revealed to everyone, but God's wrath is also revealed through His most holy Word. Both are the revelation of God's righteousness in these matters.

My concern is the foreboding judgment I see coming on America. It could be imminent. God will only suffer, allow, and tolerate so much evil until He must arise and mete out judgment just as He did in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah.

A renowned passage in Genesis 18:20-21 says, *"And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is a very grievous; I will go down now, and see whether they*

*have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me: and if not, I will know."*

I was unaware of this matter concerning judgment until recently researching my Bible more fully. Every time we witness a reference to Elohim coming down to the earth, following the fall of Adam and Eve, it always involves judgment. You can find those events in *Genesis 11:7, Genesis 18:21, and Exodus 3:8*. This helps us better understand why vengeance is the Lord's.

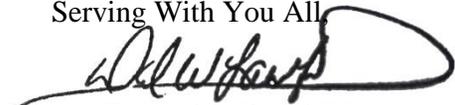
In our text, we next see the widow asking the unjust judge to avenge her of her adversary. We all contend with an adversary every day and he is called Satan, that wicked one. We are admonished, *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour"* (1 Peter 5:8). The Greek word for "devour", *katapino*, simply means "to swallow up, destroy". When defining the word "adversary", the Greek *antidikos* means "an opponent in a law suit". Jesus forewarned us, *"... because iniquity [or lawlessness] shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold"* (Matthew 24:12). In other words, on account of lawlessness and its ability to abound, many so-called Christians will wax or grow into more lawlessness.

It is my prayer you prevail in prayer in the coming days.

We humbly thank you for all you do and pray the Lord God of Abraham bless your spiritual gifts to **The Voice of Evangelism**.

We are praying about a meeting in April or May of 2021. We need to come together in spirit-filled worship and hear a declaration from the Word of God.

Serving With You All

  
Pastor / Evangelist David W. Lankford