

Parables of Grace

Trusting in Grace

(Luke 11:5-13; Luke 18:4-5)

- Introduction:
1. Today's lesson will bring to a close a series of lessons on several of the parables of Jesus that focused on God's grace.
 2. Today's lesson will actually introduce two parables of Jesus, both of which teach the same lesson.
 3. The parables are sometimes called, "The Parable of the Persistent Neighbor," and the "Parable of the Persistent Widow."
 4. Let's examine together the lesson Jesus wanted to impress upon us by telling us two parables with the same message.

I. The Setting to Both Parables

A. (Luke 11:5-13).

1. A visitor arrives at a man's house, it is midnight, and he has nothing to serve him after his journey.
2. So he goes to his neighbor's house to ask for bread.
3. The neighbor does not respond favorably, but because he won't go away, the neighbor gives him what he needs.

B. (Luke 18:1-8).

1. A widow was seeking justice from an adversary, but the judge would not act on behalf of the widow.
2. But because of her persistence, he gave in and avenged her.

II. The Application for us Today

A. We are reminded of the reality of prayer.

1. God really invites us into his presence to hear our petitions!
2. (Luke 11:1-4).
3. Do you know any President or King with whom, at your desire, can secure a private meeting?
4. But we can with God!

B. If the ungodly can be moved to do right, how much more is God already inclined to do right?

1. These parables are not saying God is like the neighbor and judge, but he is being contrasted with the neighbor and judge.
2. (Isaiah 62:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; James 5:16).

- Conclusion:
1. Don't miss the question Jesus asks – "When the Son of Man comes, will he really find [this] faith on the earth?"
 2. Question: Is this kind of faith seen in you? Do you believe in prayer? Do you pray like you believe in prayer?