

28 Parables of Jesus
Shall Not God Avenge His Own?
 Bible Sermon Study Notes: Pastor Cary Rodgers, Jr

"Christ had been speaking of the period just before His second coming, and of the perils through which His followers must pass. With special reference to that time He related the parable 'to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.'" COL 164

What parable does Jesus relate to us in the last days that teaches us about persist prayer and God's justice?

Luke 18:1-8

- 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?**

What was the character of the city judge?

1. He did not serve or worship God
2. He did not care for others and their rights
3. He was only in position to serve himself instead of the interests of others
4. Selfish
5. Unjust
6. No pity for the suffering
7. Arrogant

What is the contrast between the God as judge and the city judge

"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." Christ here draws a sharp contrast between the unjust judge and God. The judge yielded to the widow's request merely through selfishness, that he might be relieved of her importunity. He felt for her no pity or compassion; her misery was nothing to him. How different is the attitude of God toward those who seek Him. The appeals of the needy and distressed are considered by Him with infinite compassion. {COL 165.1}

Why does God use a widow in this parable?

A widow is a woman who lost her husband by death. There is great loss and emotional pain. Because of the death of their husband many widows become economically poor. Many become dependent on others and relatives to "make ends meet." Many become easy prey for criminals, thieves, or scam artists because their "protector" is dead. In summary, widows suffer great loss, poverty, and vulnerable to crime.

Symbolically a woman represents God's people, His church. Because of disobedience sin separated God's people from God. We were as widows with no husband – poor, distressed, broke, and suffered great loss. BUT Jesus came to bring the husband and wife back together again through His blood and redemption work.

"The woman who entreated the judge for justice had lost her husband by death. Poor and friendless, she had no means of retrieving her ruined fortunes. So by sin, man lost his connection with God. Of himself he has no means of salvation. But in Christ we are brought nigh unto the Father. The elect of God are dear to His heart. They are those whom He has called out of darkness into His marvelous light, to show forth His praise, to shine as lights amid the darkness of the world. The unjust judge had no special interest in the widow who importuned him for deliverance; yet in order to rid himself of her pitiful appeals, he heard her plea, and delivered her from her adversary. But God loves His children with infinite love. To Him the dearest object on earth is His church." {COL 165.2}

Did you know that you are the apple of God's eye?

Deuteronomy 32:9-10

- 9** For the LORD'S portion *is* his people; Jacob *is* the lot of his inheritance.
- 10** He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

Zechariah 2:8

- 8** For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

The apple of the eye is literally the pupil of the eye. The pupil is the center part of the eye. It is known as the gateway to the eye.

God says that we are the "apple of his eye" to reveal that we are the center of his affections. He loves us so much that Jesus died for us. In other words, when anyone messes with a child of God they are directly messing with God Himself.

Purchased Possession!

- 1 Pe_2:9** But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Peculiar people = purchased possession. A people redeemed or bought back as a ransom by the blood of Jesus Christ.

What was the widow's request to the judge?

The widow who was still mourning the loss of her husband was seeking justice for an unjust act that was done to her. She had a very strong case with all the evidence she needed. She asked the judge to "**avenge** me of mine adversary (enemy)."

What is the difference between Avenge vs Revenge?

To avenge is to punish a wrongdoing with the intent of seeing justice done. *Revenge* is more personal, less concerned with justice and more about retaliation by inflicting harm.

Avenge = just punishment

Revenge = Retaliation inflicting harm without seeking justice. (In other words, take matters in your own hands.)

The widow was seeking just punishment for her enemy that unjustly did her wrong.

Whose prayer does the widow's prayer " **"Avenge me of mine adversary," represent?**

This prayer “avenge me of mine adversary” is a prayer crying out for justice from God's faithful people.

Who is our adversary (enemy)?

Ephesians 6:11-12

- 11** Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
- 12** For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Principalities, rulers of darkness, spiritual wickedness is Satan and his evil demons! Satan and his demons are our direct enemy! We cannot fight them with bombs and guns we have on the whole armour of God and use pray and the Word of God has our offensive weapons to tear down the kingdom of Satan!

Our enemy, Satan, is our accuser.

Revelation 12:10

- 10** And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

Satan accuses us day and night that we ALL deserve DEATH because of sin! He looks at the temptations that we yielded to and all the sins that we have committed. He relentlessly and vehemently demand to the Judge the we MUST DIE as a result of our sins. He probably quotes part of Romans 3:23, “The wages of sin is DEATH!” Satan makes our case appear to be hopeless as we stand before a Holy God. As we stand before a Holy God, guilty and in shame, I can imagine Jesus completing the rest of Romans 3:23, BUT the GIFT of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our LORD. Satan is right we have sinned. We have broken the law of God. We do deserve death, but God by his love and grace has given us away to be sinless before a Holy God through the blood of Jesus Christ, by faith! Amen!

What is the purpose of your existence?

Genesis 1:26-27

- 26** And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
- 27** So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Isa 43:7 *Even* every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

Isa 43:10 Ye *are* my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I *am* he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

What is the glory of God?

Exodus 34:5-7

- 5** And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.
- 6** And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,
- 7** Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear *the guilty*; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth *generation*.

Don't forget GOD IS JUST!

The glory of God is the character of God.

Disobedience and sin marred the our image reflection of God. It was messed up with no hope! The redemption plan of Jesus was activated to restored God's image in us.

Jesus came to save us from sin!

Mat 1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Jesus (Greek) = Iēsous (*ee-ay-sooce'*). Jesus = “*Jehovah is salvation*” (*Thayer Greek Dictionary*)

The Hebrew name for “Jesus” is Joshua [yəhōshūā' yəhōshūā'] yeh-ho-shoo'-ah, yeh-ho-shoo'-ah = Jehovah saved (Strong's Hebrew Dictionary)

Jehovah (Hebrew) yəhōvāh (*yeh-ho-vaw'*) - (the) *self Exist*ent or eternal; *Jehovah*; Jehovah, the Lord. (Strong's Hebrew Dictionary)

Jesus is our Lord! Divine supreme authority who came to save us from sin! He is truly our salvation and strength.

Jesus calls himself Lord [Jehovah] after Satan tempts Him in the mountain

Mat 4:7 Jesus said unto him, **It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.**

Hebrew to Greek to English the name is still the same – Jehovah > Joshua > Jesus! The name is Jesus is NOT pagan it is Holy that points to a holy God that came to save us from sin.

For example: Cary (English) Cary (Spanish) = Carino but still the same name! Cary (German) is Tragen but the name is still the same!

Even though sin has marred our image and Satan is always accusing us that we deserve death, what illustration does God use that reveals how we are made righteous?

In the prophecy of Zechariah Satan accusing work is seen, but also the Work of Jesus Christ is seen resisting the adversary and revealing how He clothes us with his righteous so we can be like Jesus, the Joshua (English) or Yhosua(Hebrew).

Zechariah 3:1-3

- 1 And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.
- 2 And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?
- 3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.

It is interesting that God uses a literal Joshua the high priest as an example in this vision. It remains us the we were made in the image of the God, but that we can be remade in him through the Yhosua (Joshua) = Jesus!

The filthy garments represents our sins and unrighteousness, defiled with the corruptness of the world. We stand hopeless accused of Satan that we deserve death, BUT Jesus out of His love for us REBUKES Satan twice.

How much does Satan hate God's people?

Rev 12:12 ...Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

Rev 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Satan's hate and accusations get more intense as we get closer to the end of time! This is not time to play. We must be continually aware of Satan devices and deceptions.

1Pe 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

"Every manifestation of God's power for His people arouses the enmity of Satan. Every time God works in their behalf, Satan with his angels works with renewed vigor to compass their ruin. He is jealous of all who make Christ their strength. His object is to instigate evil, and when he has succeeded, throw all the blame upon the tempted ones. He points to their filthy garments, their defective characters. He presents their weakness and folly, their sins of ingratitude, their unlikeness to Christ, which have dishonored their Redeemer. All this he urges as an argument proving his right to work his will in their destruction. He endeavors to affright their souls with the thought that their case is hopeless, that the stain of their defilement can never be washed away. He hopes so to destroy their faith that they will yield fully to his temptations, and turn from their allegiance to God." {COL 168}

Should you answer Satan's accusations?

You better not; you will lose! Let you Divine Lawyer handle the case!

1Jn 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

"The Lord's people cannot of themselves answer the charges of Satan. As they look to themselves they are ready to despair. But they appeal to the divine Advocate. They plead the merits of the Redeemer. God can be "just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." Romans 3:26. With confidence the Lord's children cry unto Him to silence the accusations of Satan, and bring to naught his devices. "Do me justice of mine adversary," they pray; and with the mighty argument of the cross, Christ silences the bold accuser." {COL 168.2}

Brands plucked out of the fire of destruction!

We are brands plucked out of the fire of destruction! Like a fire fighter Jesus comes and rescues us from being consumed by the flames of sin. But we must release sin and the world and grab hold of the saving hands of Jesus Christ!

What does Jesus our advocate do for us as we stand filthy with our unrighteousness?

Zechariah 3:3-7

- 3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.
- 4 And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.
- 5 And I said, Let them set a fair mitre [pure crown] upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD stood by.
- 6 And the angel of the LORD protested unto Joshua, saying,

7 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.

“Notwithstanding the defects of the people of God, Christ does not turn away from the objects of His care. He has the power to change their raiment. He removes the filthy garments, He places upon the repenting, believing ones His own robe of righteousness, and writes pardon against their names on the records of heaven. He confesses them as His before the heavenly universe. Satan their adversary is shown to be an accuser and deceiver. God will do justice for His own elect.” {COL 169.3}

What is your Adversary's fate who accuses you day and night in the end?

Rev 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Avenge me of mine adversary!

The prayer “Avenge me of mine adversary does not only apply to Satan and his demons but also those who allowed Satan to use them to attack, persecute, and kill God’s people.

Why was Jesus persecuted and given the death penalty?

Isaiah 59:14-15

14 And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.

15 Yea, truth faileth; and he *that* departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: and the LORD saw *it*, and it displeased him that *there was* no judgment.

These was fulfilled at the time of Jesus and will be fulfilled in our day. Jesus was unjustly put to the cross. God people will be unjustly persecuted and killed. The judicial system will be corrupt!

“In the parable of the unjust judge, Christ has shown what we should do. "Shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him?" Christ, our example, did nothing to vindicate or deliver Himself. He committed His case to God.” COL 171

“If we surrender our lives to His service, we can never be placed in a position for which God has not made provision. Whatever may be our situation, we have a Guide to direct our way; whatever our perplexities, we have a sure Counselor; whatever our sorrow, bereavement, or loneliness, we have a sympathizing Friend. If in our ignorance we make missteps, Christ does not leave us. His voice, clear and distinct, is heard saying, 'I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.' John 14:6. "He shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper.' Psalm 72:12. COL 173

The Lord declares that He will be honored by those who draw nigh to Him, who faithfully do His service. 'Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee.' Isaiah 26:3. The arm of Omnipotence is outstretched to lead us onward and still onward. Go forward, the Lord says; I will send you help. It is for My name's glory that you ask, and you shall receive. I will be honored before those who are watching for your failure. They shall see My word triumph gloriously. "All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.' Matthew 21:22.” {COL 173.2}

Why does permit trials?

Romans 5:3-4

3 And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

James 1:3-4

- 3 Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.
 4 But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Those saved in the kingdom of God must GO through trials to developed patience, “cheerfully enduring.”

Rev 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

“Christ desires nothing so much as to redeem His heritage from the dominion of Satan. But before we are delivered from Satan's power without, we must be delivered from his power within. The Lord permits trials in order that we may be cleansed from earthliness, from selfishness, from harsh, unchristlike traits of character. He suffers the deep waters of affliction to go over our souls in order that we may know Him and Jesus Christ whom He has sent, in order that we may have deep heart longings to be cleansed from defilement, and may come forth from the trial purer, holier, happier. Often we enter the furnace of trial with our souls darkened with selfishness; but if patient under the crucial test, we shall come forth reflecting the divine character. When His purpose in the affliction is accomplished, "He shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday." Psalm 37:6. COL 175

What example does Jesus give us to teach us about a persevering prayer of faith for the last days?

Mark 7:25-30

- 25 For a *certain* woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell at his feet:
 26 The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.
 27 But Jesus said unto her, **Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs.**
 [Jesus here was testing her faith]
 28 And she answered and said unto him, Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs.
 29 And he said unto her, **For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter.**
 30 And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.

We must have tenacious and persevering prayers in the last days that holds on to ALL the promises of God by faith! Don't despair or rehearse the difficulties, PRAY and move forward with the power of Jesus Christ.

God will AVENGE His own with just punishment!

Rom 12:19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written,
Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Luke 18:7-8

- 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....**

“The world has become bold in transgression of God's law. Because of His long forbearance, men have trampled upon His authority. They have strengthened one another in oppression and cruelty toward His heritage, saying, "How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the Most High?" Psalm 73:11. But there is a line beyond which they cannot pass. The time is near when they will have reached the prescribed limit. Even now they have almost exceeded the bounds of the long-suffering of God, the limits of His grace, the limits of His mercy. The Lord will interpose to vindicate His own honor, to deliver His people, and to repress the swellings of unrighteousness.” {COL 177.5}

An extremely crisis is looming. Are you ready? Are you ready for the mark of the beast crisis? It is right upon us!

French court fines politician for using word from Bible to describe homosexuality

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/french-court-fines-politician-for-using-word-from-bible-to-describe-homosex>

“November 4, 2016 ([LifeSiteNews](#)) — French politician and former housing minister Christine Boutin was convicted of “hate speech” on Wednesday by the Court of Appeals of Paris for having called homosexuality an “abomination” in an interview with the high-brow political magazine *Charles* in March 2014.

Boutin was ordered to pay a fine of 5,000 euro (more than \$5,500 USD), as well as 2,000 euro each in damages to three gay associations, “Mousse,” “Le Refuge,” and “Inter-LGBT.”

This amounts to being fined for quoting the Bible. In two separate occurrences, Leviticus uses the word abomination, which is the same in French as in English, in chapter 18, verse 22: “You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.” Clearly, the judgment also means that Christians should not express their agreement with this form of prohibition of homosexual acts if they do not want to be sanctioned for a criminal offense.”

Prophecy update

The Paris Agreement which links to Pope Francis Encyclical “Care for Our Common Home” that promote Sunday worship and the Catholic Mass as one of the solutions to “climate change” is NOW INTERNATIONAL LAW. It entered into “FORCE” November 4, 2016.

237. On Sunday, our participation in the Eucharist has special importance. Sunday, like the Jewish Sabbath, is meant to be a day which heals our relationships with God, with ourselves, with others and with the world. Sunday is the day of the Resurrection, the “first day” of the new creation, whose first fruits are the Lord’s risen humanity, the pledge of the final transfiguration of all created reality. It also proclaims “man’s eternal rest in God”.[\[168\]](#) In this way, Christian spirituality incorporates the value of relaxation and festivity. We tend to demean contemplative rest as something unproductive and unnecessary, but this is to do away with the very thing which is most important about work: its meaning. We are called to include in our work a dimension of receptivity and gratuity, which is quite different from mere inactivity. Rather, it is another way of working, which forms part of our very essence. It protects human action from becoming empty activism; it also prevents that unfettered greed and sense of isolation which make us seek personal gain to the detriment of all else. The law of weekly rest forbade work on the seventh day, “so that your ox and your donkey may have rest, and the son of your maidservant, and the stranger, may be refreshed” (*Ex 23:12*). Rest opens our eyes to the larger picture and gives us renewed sensitivity to the rights of others. And so the day of rest, centred on the Eucharist, sheds its light on the whole week, and motivates us to greater concern for nature and the poor.

Paris Agreement and “mutatis mutandis”

Example

Article 23

1. The provisions of Article 16 of the Convention on the adoption and amendment of annexes to the Convention shall apply mutatis mutandis to this Agreement.

Mutatis mutandis -

Mutatis mutandis is a [Medieval Latin](#) phrase meaning "the necessary changes having been made" or "once the necessary changes have been made".

We are bound to a changeable international law that will be used enforce one of the Pope's Climate Change solution – Sunday worship and mass!

Paris Enters into Force – Celebration and Reality Check

Patricia Espinosa and Salaheddine Mezouar

<http://newsroom.unfccc.int/paris-agreement/paris-agreement-enters-into-force-celebration-and-reality-check/>

“Marrakech, Morocco – Humanity will look back on November 4, 2016, as the day that countries of the world shut the door on inevitable climate disaster and set off with determination towards a sustainable future.

The Paris Climate Change Agreement – the result of the most complex, comprehensive and critical international climate negotiation ever attempted – came into force today.

The Agreement is undoubtedly a turning point in the history of common human endeavor, capturing the combined political, economic and social will of governments, cities, regions, citizens, business and investors to overcome the existential threat of unchecked climate change.

Its early entry into force is a clear political signal that all the nations of the world are devoted to decisive global action on climate change.”

Paris climate change agreement enters into force

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/nov/04/paris-climate-change-agreement-enters-into-force>

“Next week, governments will meet in Morocco under the auspices of the United Nations to discuss how to put the Paris accord into force, and meet its aims.”

Paris climate pact enters into force, focus shifts to action

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-climatechange-accord-idUSKBN12Y2VW>

“The latest round of U.N. climate talks begin on Monday in Marrakesh, Morocco, where representatives from countries will try to find ways to implement the agreement and work out the rules.”

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

The twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 22) and the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 12) will be held in Bab Ighli, Marrakech, Morocco from 7-18 November 2016.

“The Sunday movement is now making its way in darkness. The leaders are concealing the true issue, and many who unite in the movement do not themselves see whither the undercurrent is tending. . . .

They are working in blindness. They do not see that if a Protestant government sacrifices the principles that have made them a free, independent nation, and through legislation brings into the Constitution principles that will propagate papal falsehood and papal delusion, they are plunging into the Roman horrors of the Dark Ages.”--RH Extra, Dec. 11, 1888.

At the very end of time why will God's people be specifically persecuted and some put to death?

[Revelation 13:15-17](#)

- 15 And he (lamb like beast) had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.
- 16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:
- 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and *I saw* the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Appeal