Prayer #2 - Luke 18:1 - 8

I. Let Us Look at Some Introductory Material
   A. Chapter begins with 2 parables only found in Luke- "Prayerables"
   B. Parables can be some of the most difficult of Jesus' teaching to interpret
      1. Some will teach outlandish doctrines from them (Matt. 25)
      2. But yet they were ideal method in many cases for Jesus to teach
   C. We have purpose (v.1) Parable (2-5) explanation (6-8) then question (8)
   D. V. 1-Parable's purpose is that men ought always to pray-(Without ceasing)
      1. Some say every moment of our lives should be prayer-1 Th. 5:17
      2. Others say that it means to always be in attitude of prayer
      3. Others say it means prayer should be part of our life till we die
      4. Others say it means that we shouldn't give up on what we pray for
   D. Word "Faint" is military word- can mean "to desert one's post"

II. Let Us Look at Individual Characters a Little Closer
   A. 3 Characters in story- Judge, widow and widow's adversary
   B. Not told much about the widow in story except she has adversary
      1. And all we know about the adversary is that he is against her
         a. If all we had was the parable, wouldn't know if widow has just cause
   C. Going outside of parable we see widow is chosen for a definite reason
      1. James 1:27; Isaiah 1:17; Jeremiah 22:3 - v. 7- Widow represents elect
   D. Judge is one character in the parable we know the most about
      1. Told 3 times he is not just - v. 2, v. 4, v. 6 - made plain
      2. Even reason for granting the request is not a just reason
   E. We know that there is no one type of God that can be perfect in all ways
      1. Only like judge in that both hear requests, sometimes delay, & answer
   F. Might wonder why doesn't choose just judge perhaps hindered or forgetful
   G. Conclusion is that Jesus purposely chose an unjust judge in this parable
      1. Judge is not even like the kind of judge God desires- Deut. 1:16, 17
   H. There are three things in particular that make this judge horrible
      1. He "feared not God" - nothing could be a worse characteristic of judge
         2. Didn't "fear man"-If pme doesn't fear God you want them to fear man
            a. Good for unbeliever, not believer - Prov. 29:25; Is. 51:7; Heb. 13:6
            3. His motives are completely selfish- not motivated by righteousness

III. Let us Learn Some Lessons From This Parable
   A. Our Lord has purposely chosen one completely unlike God
      1. We should always pray - because our prayers do bring results
      2. Widow had no reason to believer her request would be granted
         3. But she kept asking- how much more should believers? Matt. 7:7-11
      4. Judge didn't want to be "beat down" (v. 5) but God can't be-Is. 40:28
   B. Teaches we can't tell person's morality by an action - Matt. 7:16
   C. Teaches us that longest delays will seem small by faith- Dan. 10:12, 13
   D. Question is - will men continue to pray- or will they become impatient?