

## SUNDAY OF THE JUDGE

The Sunday of the Judge, reminds us of the importance of prayer and of the virtues of humility, fear of God, justice and protection of the weak. The Parables of the Widow and the Judge, and the Pharisee and the Tax Collector illustrate the results of the proper practice and importance of persistent prayer with a humble heart. In the former parable, Christians, like the widow, should not give up praying to God even when facing indifference and powerful opposition. If a helpless widow wins her case by persistent pleading before a callous judge, how much will God's elect find quick justice before a loving and righteous Father?

After encouraging the disciples to be persistent in prayer, in the latter parable, Jesus teaches them how to pray. This parable sharply contrasts the prayer of a Pharisee with that of a tax collector. Jesus commended the tax collector for his humble, contrite and "justified" prayer to God and contrasted that with the hypocrisy of the Pharisee's sense of self-righteousness.

## WORDSEARCH

C J U S T I F I E D E L D W F  
 F A F I N L E X A L T K O R Z  
 T J I R I G H T E O U S X O R  
 C C W C A D U L T E R E R S K  
 S A O A Z H B C U D S K P V P  
 E V I L D O E R S T E M P L E  
 C W H O L I V M E C U T M P Y  
 T R O B B E R S Z A N V M R F  
 H E A V E N C I P E S K E A L  
 S U B T H T H T D A I T R Y Y  
 I E M P T T H I O J R F C K P  
 N W D B W X F A G R F A Y B E  
 N F T G L N F Z N C F D B K O  
 E Q L A O E T W R K M J D L W  
 R E T C X P H A R I S E E W E

TEMPLE	EXALT	TAX	PARABLE	LOOK
JUSTIFIED	HEAVEN	PHARISEE	RIGHTEOUS	HUMBLE
BREAST	COLLECTOR	ROBBERS	THANK	EVILDOERS
MERCY	PRAY	ADULTERERS	CONFIDENT	SINNER

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## PERSISTENT PRAYER

Sunday of the Judge | Gospel Gospel Reading: Luke 17:20-18:14

We pray for many things and want those things to become a reality. We pray to God and ask Him to help our families, our friends, and in our lives. But sometimes those prayers are not answered immediately. What do we do when we don't have our prayers answered? What do you do?

For many people they stop praying. They give up and think God is not listening or does not love them. This is not true at all. God loves us and wants us to keep praying to Him. But why doesn't he answer when we want something? Sometimes God see that whatever we are asking for is not what we really need or we are not ready for it at that time.

In the Gospel reading, Jesus tells a story about a widow (someone whose husband died) going to a judge to demand justice. The judge ignored her and did not want to help her with her case. But she kept going and annoying him. Finally, the judge because he was tired of hearing the widow's requests, finally gave her justice.

Jesus explains that if the judge, who was not nice, finally answered the widow's requests, how much more so will God, who loves us, answer our requests.

We must always remember that prayer should not be a one-time act and once we pray, we do not need to pray anymore. Prayer to Christians is as necessary as breathing. Just as breathing keeps us alive, so too does prayer with our faith.

When you pray, do you pray only once or do you pray for the same thing over and over?

If you haven't received what you are praying for, could it be that God thinks you are not ready for it yet?

## ARMENIAN WORDS TO KNOW FROM HOLY BADARAK

անմահ => an-mah => immortal

Վասն սորբ եւ **անմահ** պատարագիս որ ի վերայ սրբոյ Սեղանոյս:

Vasun soorp yev **anmah** badarakees vor ee vera srpo Seghanooyis.

For this holy and **immortal** sacrifice which is on this holy Altar.

(An example is on page 37 in the Liturgy Book)

## FILL IN THE BLANK

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked \_\_\_\_\_ on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to \_\_\_\_\_, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The \_\_\_\_\_ stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other menrobbers, evildoers, adulterersor even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

"But the \_\_\_\_\_ stood at a distance. He would not even look up to \_\_\_\_\_, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have \_\_\_\_\_ on me, a \_\_\_\_\_.'

"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be \_\_\_\_\_, and he who humbles himself will be \_\_\_\_\_."

Luke 18:9-14 (NIV)

collector	exalted	humbled	Pharisee	sinner
down	heaven	mercy	pray	tax

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## SPIRITUAL THOUGHT

Do you want to have a contented heart? Help the poor.

Do you want to have a happy heart? Give to the poor.

Do you want to have a big heart? Pray for the poor.

Do you want to have a place in heaven? Spend time with the poor.

Do you want to be like Jesus? Love the poor.



"But he beat his chest and said, 'God, have mercy upon me a sinner'."

Luke 18:13

«Այլ կոծէր զկուրծս իր եւ ասէր. Աստուած, քաւեա զիս զմեղաւորս:»

Ղուկաս ԺԸ.13