

# Persistence in Prayer

**Luke 11:5-13, 18:1-8**

# The commands for persistent prayer

- **Luke 11:5-13** – Does God need to be harassed and badgered to the point that He answers us?
- **Luke 18:1-8** – Does God need to be annoyed and wearied to the point that He answers us?
  - NO! The point is that God hears and answers quickly and always genuinely cares – the very opposite of the sleepy friend and unjust judge!
  - SO: why are we commanded in both parables to keep on praying and asking with persistence?

# Things we know with certainty:

- **God is caring and all-knowing!**
  - I Cor 10:13; I Pet 5:6-7; Matt 6:8; etc.

**AND**

- **God's timing is absolutely perfect!**
  - Already happened: Ps 75:2; Gal 4:4; Rom 5:6
  - Still to come: II Tim 6:14-15

# We often grow impatient, anxious

- **Ps 89:46-48**

“How long, O Lord?” ...

“Remember how short my time is!”

- **BUT GOD KNOWS!**

– Is 49:8-13; II Cor 6:2

- **Learn to trust in God’s power AND His timing!**

– I Pet 5:6 – Trust: “in due time”

# Why do we need persistence in prayer?

- Keep praying until you receive what you desire in God's time...
- **OR** until it becomes clear that it just isn't God's will: i.e. you never truly needed it to begin with!
  - II Cor 12:7-10
  - **Matt 26:26-30** – Jesus prayed to escape the cross up until the *very moment* that it became abundantly clear: it was God's will for Him to endure the cross (cf. Heb 12:2)