

## **PERSISTENCE IN PRAYER**

Jesus has told us that when we pray we should not heap up empty phrases, as the Gentiles do. A short prayer with confidence, that ends, "I leave it with You, Lord. Out" is all that is needed.

On the other hand, Jesus does not want us to give up after the first attempt or two. The widow in Jesus' parable in Luke 18:1-18 was helpless and vulnerable because she would have had no family to support her. Only the justice of her cause and own persistence were in her favour. An unworthy judge, who was not influenced by considerations of right and wrong, was forced to deal justly with the widow just so that she would not keep on pestering him.

How much more will God answer prayers that His chosen people make when they cry out to Him day and night? God will not delay in supporting His chosen ones when they are right. He is not like the unjust judge, who had to be badgered until he got tired of it and gave in. Like a father, He loves to have His children make requests to Him. He is not too busy to be bothered, as human fathers often are.