

But prayer must be constant in order for us to obtain our desires; so was it for Peter, and so are all the disciples of Christ admonished in *Luke xviii. 1-5*. If here the unjust, unloving, ungodly, selfish judge was moved by the woman's importunity, how much more will the God of justice, of love, and mercy delight to answer the earnest unceasing prayer of His saints? Let me especially urge any desponding, or fainting soul, to consider the passages in *Luke xi. 5-13*; *1 Thessalonians v. 16-19*; noting well the meaning of *verse 19*—"Quench not the Spirit". If ever an inclination of prayer comes into the thoughts, or any other leading of the Spirit, to holiness of walk, and abstaining from evil, yield immediately to it, and obey the Spirit's drawing, and persuading power in your heart, and by no means put it aside for a future time, or a better opportunity. Infinite blessing is lost by quenching the leading of the Spirit.

Verse 6. The faith of the saints was tried by the Lord to the last moment, as it were; but God is never *too late*, deliverance will surely come; and so the very night before Peter was to have been executed by Herod, the prayers of the saints are answered and he is set free by the Angel. So was it in the case of Paul going to persecute the saints at Damascus. He was armed with all authority and power, he was allowed to proceed with his journey all the way from Jerusalem up to the very walls of Damascus—150 miles; *there* the saints had doubtless prayed for deliverance from their persecutor, and, at the last moment, when he was about to lay hands upon his prey, he was confronted with a vision of Christ, and was struck down from proudly leading his band of horsemen with power and pomp into the city, even to the ground, and was obliged to enter that city led by the hand of another, on foot, blind and powerless, and broken down in spirit before the power of Christ. We see why our faith

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