

The Parables of Jesus #27

The Parable of the Unjust Judge - Part 2

“The Coming of the King & Martyr Vindication”

Luke 18:1-8 (RSV)

And he told them a parable, *to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.* He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor regarded man; and there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, '*Vindicate me against my adversary.*' For a while he refused; but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow bothers me, *I will vindicate her,* or she will wear me out by her continual coming.'" And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. *And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them?* I tell you, *he will vindicate them speedily.* Nevertheless, *when the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?*"

As review from part 1 of this parable, consider the following questions:

- What* were the disciples to continually pray for?
- Why* were they to always pray and not lose heart?
- When* was the vindication of the saints to take place?
- Who* was to accomplish their vindication?
- Why* did Jesus tell this parable?

Recall our conclusion from part 1:

“The parable of *“The Unjust Judge”* was the promise of God to vindicate the long history of the persecution of His elect by bringing judgment upon their enemies at the second coming of Christ which was to occur *“quickly”*, that is, *within the last days of Old Covenant Israel.* The parable itself guarantees the first century *soon to come* climax to the “battle of the seeds” which begins in Genesis and culminates in Revelation.”

The Blood of the Righteous Cries Out for Vengeance and Vindication

Genesis 4:1-2,8-10

Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to *Cain*, and she said, “I have gotten a manchild with the help of the Lord.” Again, she gave birth to *his brother Abel.* And Abel was a keeper of flocks, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.... And it came about when they were in the field, *that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.* Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” And he said, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?” He said, “What have you done? *The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to Me from the ground.*”

Vindication of the Martyrs & Vengeance on the Adversaries in Israel’s Last days

Deuteronomy 31:28-30, 32:35-36,40-43

Assemble to me all the elders of your tribes and your officers, that I may speak these words in their hearing and call the heavens and the earth to witness against them. For I know that after my death you will act corruptly and turn from the way which I have commanded you; *and evil will befall you in the latter days,* for you will do that which is evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking Him to anger with the work of your hands. Then Moses spoke in the hearing of all the assembly of Israel the words of this song, until they were complete.... Vengeance is Mine, and retribution, in due time their foot will slip; for the day of their calamity is near, and the impending things are hastening upon them.’ *For the Lord will vindicate His people, and will have compassion on His servants,* when He sees that their strength is gone, and there is none remaining, bond or free.... ‘Indeed, I lift up My hand to heaven, and say, as I live forever, If I sharpen My flashing sword, and My hand takes hold on justice, *I will render vengeance on My adversaries, and I will repay those who hate Me.* ‘I will make My arrows

drunk with blood, and My sword will devour flesh, with the blood of the slain and the captives, from the long-haired leaders of the enemy.’ *“Rejoice, O nations, with His people; for He will avenge the blood of His servants, and will render vengeance on His adversaries, and will atone for His land and His people.”*

Isaiah 1:1,13-15,21,24

The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz *concerning Judah and Jerusalem*, which he saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.... “Bring your worthless offerings no longer, incense is an abomination to Me. New moon and sabbath, the calling of assemblies - I cannot endure iniquity and the solemn assembly. “I hate your new moon festivals and your appointed feasts, they have become a burden to Me; I am weary of bearing them. So when you spread out your hands in prayer I will hide My eyes from you; yes, even though you multiply prayers, I will not listen. *Your hands are covered with blood....* How the faithful city has become a harlot, she was full of justice! Righteousness once lodged in her, *but now murderers....* Therefore, the Lord God of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel, declares, “Ah, *I will be relieved of My adversaries and avenge Myself on My foes.*

Isaiah 2:1-2, 4:2-4

The word which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw *concerning Judah and Jerusalem*. Now it will come about that *in the last days* the mountain of the house of the Lord will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the nations will stream to it.... *In that day*, the Branch of the Lord will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth will be the pride and the adornment of the survivors of Israel. It will come about that he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy - everyone who is recorded for life in Jerusalem. *When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and purged the bloodshed of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning.*

Joel 2:28-32, 3:1-2, 18-21

It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, blood, fire and columns of smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. And it will come about that whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be delivered; for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be those who escape, as the Lord has said, even among the survivors whom the Lord calls.... For behold, *in those days and at that time*, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all the nations and bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. *Then I will enter into judgment with them there on behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations;* and they have divided up My land.... *And in that day* the mountains will drip with sweet wine, and the hills will flow with milk, and all the brooks of Judah will flow with water; and a spring will go out from the house of the Lord to water the valley of Shittim. Egypt will become a waste, and Edom will become a desolate wilderness, because of the violence done to the sons of Judah, *in whose land they have shed innocent blood. But Judah will be inhabited forever and Jerusalem for all generations. And I will avenge their blood which I have not avenged, for the Lord dwells in Zion.*

Vindication of the Martyrs & Vengeance on the Adversaries at the Coming of the Lord

Isaiah 26:20-21, 27:9-13

Come, my people, enter into your rooms and close your doors behind you; hide for a little while until indignation runs its course. *For behold, the Lord is about to come out from His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; and the earth will reveal her bloodshed and will no longer cover her slain....* Therefore, *through this Jacob’s iniquity will be forgiven; and this will be the full price of the pardoning of his sin: when he makes all the altar stones like pulverized chalk stones;* when Asherim and incense altars will not stand.... *In that day*, the Lord will start His threshing from the flowing stream of the Euphrates to the brook of Egypt, and you will be gathered up one by one, O sons of Israel. It will come about also *in that day that a great trumpet will be blown*, and those who were perishing in the

land of Assyria and who were scattered in the land of Egypt *will come and worship the Lord in the holy mountain at Jerusalem.*

Isaiah 59:1-3,7,16-20

Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short that it cannot save; nor is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear. *For your hands are defiled with blood and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken falsehood, your tongue mutters wickedness.... Their feet run to evil, and they hasten to shed innocent blood;* their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity, devastation and destruction are in their highways.... And He saw that there was no man, and was astonished that there was no one to intercede; then His own arm brought salvation to Him, and His righteousness upheld Him. He put on righteousness like a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on His head; and *He put on garments of vengeance for clothing and wrapped Himself with zeal as a mantle. According to their deeds, so He will repay, wrath to His adversaries, recompense to His enemies;* to the coastlands He will make recompense. So they will fear the name of the Lord from the west and His glory from the rising of the sun, for He will come like a rushing stream which the wind of the Lord drives. *A Redeemer will come to Zion, and to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," declares the Lord.*

Matthew 16:21,24-25,27-28

From that time, Jesus began to show His disciples that *He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day....* Then Jesus said to His disciples, *"If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.... For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and will then repay every man according to his deeds. Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."*

The Coming of the King & Martyr Vindication at the Judgment of Jerusalem in AD70

Matthew 21:40-41,43

Therefore, *when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vine-growers? They said to Him, "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end, and will rent out the vineyard to other vine-growers who will pay him the proceeds at the proper seasons....* Therefore, I say to you, *the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people, producing the fruit of it.*

Matthew 22:5-7

But they paid no attention and went their way, one to his own farm, another to his business, and *the rest seized his slaves and mistreated them and killed them. But the king was enraged, and he sent his armies and destroyed those murderers and set their city on fire.*

Matthew 23:29-36

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, and say, *'If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'* So you testify against yourselves, *that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell? Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.*

1 Thessalonians 2:13-16

For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also

performs its work in you who believe. For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea, *for you also endured the same sufferings at the hands of your own countrymen, even as they did from the Jews, who both killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out. They are not pleasing to God, but hostile to all men, hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved; with the result that they always fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them to the utmost.*

Martyr Vindication Fulfilled in Revelation

At the close of that last day's generation, the vindication that Jesus said would come "speedily" [quickly], was about to be accomplished in just a "little while longer".

Luke 18:1-8 (RSV)

And he told them a parable, *to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.* He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor regarded man; and there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, '*Vindicate me against my adversary.*' For a while he refused; but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow bothers me, *I will vindicate her, or she will wear me out by her continual coming.*'" And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. *And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will vindicate them speedily.* Nevertheless, *when the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?*"

Revelation 6:9-11

When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath *the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained;* and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "*How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?*" And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should *rest for a little while longer,* until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.

And finally, through the judgment and destruction of the harlot-city Babylon in AD70, the blood of the saints was vindicated and vengeance on the enemies of Christ was accomplished in fulfillment of Israel's "last days judgment" as predicted in Deuteronomy 32.

Deuteronomy 32:43

"Rejoice, O nations, with His people; for He will avenge the blood of His servants, and will render vengeance on His adversaries, and will atone for His land and His people."

Revelation 18:20, 19:1-2

Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her.... Because His judgments are true and righteous; for He has judged the great harlot who was corrupting the earth with her immorality, and He has avenged the blood of His bond-servants on her.

In conclusion:

The parable of "*The Unjust Judge*" was the reiteration and confirmation of the promise of God to vindicate the age-long persecution of His elect by bringing judgment upon their enemies at the second coming of Christ in AD70. The parable guaranteed the first century *soon-to-come* climax to the "battle of the seeds" which began in Genesis and culminates in Revelation. So, in answer to the question; "*will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night?*" *I tell you, he did vindicate them "quickly", in that generation.*