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Daily Devotional - Wednesday, June 20, 2018 - Be Steadfast in Prayer

JUNE 20TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Luke 18:1-8

While the Israelites engaged in physical combat, a spiritual battle was simultaneously being waged nearby. Scripture tells us that as Moses was praying, he grew weary in the midst of a critical situation (Ex. 17:12). If this can happen to one of God's greatest leaders, it shouldn't come as a surprise when we feel defeated or discouraged.

As battles loom, we oftentimes lose heart because our eyes are focused on the circumstances. We allow the enemy to skew our perspective of the conflict, which makes barriers before us seem unlikely to give way. Then it's not uncommon to feel panicky and wonder, *Lord, what am I going to do?* We may even stop praying because it seems apparent there's no solution, no way out, no hope of victory. We're just too tired and disappointed.

Jesus knew that we would at times feel fainthearted, which is why He told the parable of the persistent widow in today's reading. The Lord wanted to encourage His followers to be tireless in prayer. This requires faith, without which it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:6).

Let's remember that the enemy rejoices when we give up, but defeat is never our only option! If we could see the situation through God's eyes, we would see a completely different landscape.

We may need to pray strenuously, as if we're tunneling through a mountain, but when we do, our faith and perseverance will grow.

So keep praying, and let the Word of God encourage you personally. You'll hear His assurance as He fights for you.

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