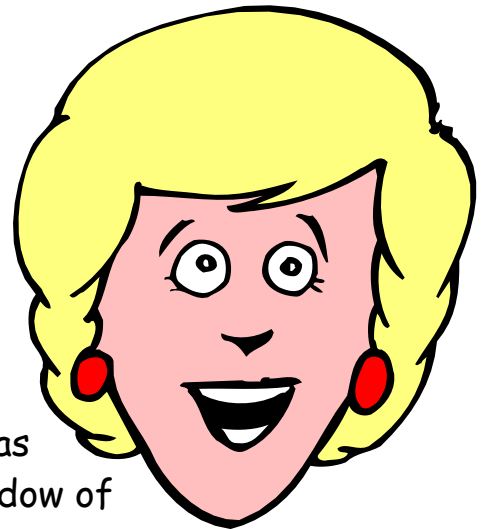


# Story of the Persistent Widow

One day Jesus told his disciples a story to illustrate their need for constant prayer and to show them that they must never give up.



'There was a judge in a certain city,' he said, 'who was a godless man with great contempt for everyone. A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, appealing for justice against someone who had harmed her. The judge ignored her for a while, but eventually she wore him out. 'I fear neither God nor man,' he said to himself, 'but this woman is driving me crazy. I'm going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests.'

Then the Lord said, 'Learn a lesson from this evil judge. Even he rendered a just decision in the end, so don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who plead with him day and night?' Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when I, the Son of Man, return, how many will I find who have faith?'

## Task

1. Give the meaning of the following words from the passage:

**contempt** \_\_\_\_\_

**godless** \_\_\_\_\_

**render** \_\_\_\_\_

2. With a friend, write an imaginary telephone conversation between the judge and the widow. The widow needs to explain what happened to her and why she is determined to obtain justice. The judge at first refuses. What does he say to the widow at first? How does he tell her that he's changed his mind?