

Grace Notes

Perfect Timing

6.09.10



“But as for me, I trust in You, O Lord. I say, ‘You are my God; my times are in Your hand.’” (Psalm 31:15, NASB)

In the NFL, it’s called a “False Start.”

This week’s devotional thought isn’t so much about “hurry” as it is about “jumping the gun.” In the Christian life, one can be doing the right thing—but at the wrong time.

Nowhere in Scripture is this issue more vital than in Matthew 4 & Luke 4 when Satan tempts Jesus to “skip the cross.” In other words, “skip the process and head immediately to the reward.” Jesus would have none of that, but rather *“endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* (Heb. 12:2)



As believers, we tend to get in the habit of telling God, *“hurry up—we’re tired of waiting.”* We’d just as soon “skip the process.” We watch time pass on “the clock of life” and sometimes wonder, *“Does God really know what He’s doing?”* Yes, He does. And, because He is perfect, His timing is perfect.

Consider this: the need to liberate the Hebrews from Egyptian slavery was urgent, but God let Moses herd goats for 40 years before calling his name. In addition, throughout their nomadic journey Israel would set-up and break-down the Tabernacle only when God gave instructions to do so. And, sometimes, God simply had them wait for no apparent reason. But, to have broken camp prior to His command would have meant certain annihilation.

Waiting on God is hard. Sometimes we get an answer as to “what’s taking so long”, and sometimes we don’t. But it’s important to avoid “short-cuts” that Satan dangles in front of us.

The famous 19th century, British preacher, Charles Spurgeon, once commented, *“It is observable that, in recent times, when men grew weary of the long and tedious compass in their voyages to the East Indies, and would try a [quicker route] by way of the North-West Passage, it has ever proved [deadly].”*



Are you on a “route” in life that appears to be “the long way around?” Is something in your life taking much longer than you’d expected? There’s a reason for it. Trust God. Don’t circumvent His plans for you. God is perfect. And so is His timing in our lives.

Soli Deo Gloria, Nick