

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

LEARNING TO BE PATIENT

RLJ-1642

CHARLES THORELL

MARCH 11, 2018

GOD'S TIMING

God wants to build with humanity on earth. We are living stones that are being chiseled and polished so we can fit into the spiritual house God is building on earth and for eternity.

Every action by God is being carried out according to "eternal time," not "earthly time."

The world's militaries use cannons and there are many ways to measure the projectile. Depending upon the country, you will find it measured in inches, millimeters and even by weight.

We have a way of measuring time on earth. God has a completely different way of measuring time in heaven. He provided an example to Daniel. **Daniel 12:5-9**

One day is with the Lord is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day. The revelation to Peter was a fulfillment of God's promise to Daniel, effectively allowing us to convert eternity time into earthly time. **2 Peter 3:8**

We can deduce God's eternity time by dividing 1,000 years by 24 hours:

- ❖ One hour with God is 41.67 years for man.
- ❖ One minute with God is 8 months and 8 days for man.
- ❖ One second with God is 3 days and 22 hours for man.

We don't like to wait for God, but in order for us to be used by Him, we must move from the earthly way of telling time that we're used to and into God's program of eternity time.

God is never late or early. He is always on time according to heaven's eternity time. It is therefore necessary to learn to wait upon God. A servant waits for an order from his master. He won't commence a task until he is told to begin. Then it is up to him to work diligently and finish it in a timely manner. **Psalms 123:1-2**

Likewise, a servant doesn't need to think on behalf of his master. He simply needs to listen to the instructions and follow through with obedience. God doesn't need us second guessing Him. **Isaiah 55:8-9**

PATIENCE

No one is born with patience; it is something that must be learned. Patience is initially taught by your parents, and as you grow older, God takes over as the teacher.

What about if you try to rush God or slow Him down? To those who try this, God is obviously wrong and you have a solution He has not considered or doesn't know about.

Have you ever argued with God over His timing? There is nothing more dangerous than when we move on something without God. When we leave God behind, we are responsible for the results of our actions and they will affect those around us.



Saul was chosen by God to be the first king over Israel. The Philistines mustered a large army in his second year in response to Saul attacking their outpost. **1 Samuel 13:1-7**

King Saul has been instructed by the prophet Samuel to wait for seven days at Gilgal. While he waited, the Israelites conscripted into his army began to desert and Saul watched helplessly while his army shrank. **verse 8**

He panicked and made a poor decision to offer the burnt sacrifice without Samuel in order to placate the people. **verse 9**

Samuel showed up as soon as he finished. **verse 10**

Saul proceeded to place the blame on the Israelites and Philistines, going even so far as to admit that he sought to force the hand of God. **verses 11-12**

Samuel's response was a crushing blow. Saul had behaved foolishly in blatantly disregarding God's command. As a result, the kingship was taken from him and given to another. **verses 13-14**

King Saul panicked when he gazed upon the overwhelming number of Philistines arrayed against his tiny army and saw his people deserting him. If Saul had only been more patient, his life would have ended differently.

SUMMARY

Patience requires learning to wait upon the Lord.

Patience requires trusting in God regardless of the circumstances.

Patience is realizing God is on the throne and there is no crisis in heaven.

What if God delays His answer? Can you force His hand? No.

When God stops, you stop. When He moves, you also move. God is never late but that doesn't mean He will arrive at the time you set for Him.

God is sovereign, and while He chooses to interact with mankind, that doesn't give us the right to boss Him around.

Saul's successor was not perfect but David learned to wait upon the Lord. **Psalm 37:1-9, 23-25, 35, 39-40**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!