

THE WORD OF GOD May 12 2019

TEXT: TIMES AND SEASONS ARE IN GOD'S HANDS

Acts 1:7

Jesus replied, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority.

“If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed. !” **Habakkuk 2:3**

Matthew 25:13 “So you, too, must keep watch! For you do not know the day or hour of my return.

Psalm 31:14 But I trust in you, LORD; I say, “You are my God.”

15 My times are in your hands;

2 Peter 3:8 But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day.

Luke 21: 32 I tell you the truth, this generation will not pass from the scene until all these things have taken place.

THERE COULD BE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN:

- WHEN GOD ANSWERS A PRAYER AND**
- WHEN THAT ANSWER PHYSICALLY MANIFESTS.**

Isaiah 65:24 “I will answer them before they even call to me. While they are still talking about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers!”

Proverbs 23:18 “the hope of the righteous will not be cut off.”

For instance, before Moses started the rescue mission, God had already answered their prayer. It however took a while before Pharaoh allowed them to go.

Exodus 3:⁹And now the cry of the Israelites has reached Me, and I have seen how severely the Egyptians are oppressing them. **10**Therefore, go! I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring My people, the Israelites, out of Egypt

Even after their prayers had been heard by God, their punishments increased:

Exodus 5: ² Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD and I will not let Israel go. --- ⁶ That same day Pharaoh gave this order to the slave drivers and overseers in charge of the people: ⁷ “You are no longer to supply the people with straw for making bricks; let them go and gather their own straw. ⁸ But require them to make the same number of bricks as before; don’t reduce the quota. They are lazy; that is why they are crying out, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’ ⁹ Make the work harder for the people.

¹⁵ Then the Israelite overseers went and appealed to Pharaoh: ¹⁷ Pharaoh said, “Lazy, that’s what you are—lazy! That is why you keep saying, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.

²⁰ When the Israelite overseers left Pharaoh, they found Moses and Aaron waiting to meet them, ²¹ and they said, “May the LORD look on you and judge you! You have made us obnoxious to Pharaoh and his officials and have put a sword in their hand to kill us.”

Brethren, God had answered their prayer but it has not come to physical manifestation. So, ignorantly, they were complaining.

Exodus 6:1

But the LORD said to Moses, "Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh, for because of My mighty hand he will let them go; because of My strong hand he will drive them out of his land."

God released so much plagues on the land that Pharaoh was forced to liberate the people.

Exodus 12:³¹Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron by night and said, "Get up, leave my people, both you and the Israelites! Go, worship the LORD as you have requested. ³²Take your flocks and herds as well, just as you have said, and depart! And bless me also.

God is not sleeping between the times. He is working on our behalf and at the fullness of time, the answers will come to us.

1, God could be waiting for their sin to be full.

- a. He piled plagues on pharaoh until he was tired.
- b. In Gen 15:16, God said to Abraham, ¹⁶ In the fourth generation

your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”

2. Prince Persia could be holding back the prayer

Daniel 10: 12“Do not be afraid, Daniel,” he said, “for from the first day that you purposed to understand and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. **13**However, the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me for twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia. **14**Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision concerns those days.”

3. The Lord decided to harden their heart: like in the case of Pharaoh

In response, we must wait, keep praying expectantly until we get our answers.

If we are not careful to wait for the physical manifestation, we will respond in a way that is unacceptable by God:

1 Abraham did not wait – delivered Ishmael through a house-maid

Genesis 18:¹⁰Then the LORD said, “I will surely return to you at this time next year, and your wife Sarah will have a son!”

God had already answered but it has not physically manifested.

2. Israelites Complained: **Exodus 5:** ²¹ and they said, “May the LORD look on you and judge you! You have made us obnoxious to Pharaoh and his officials and have put a sword in their hand to kill us.”

3. Zachariah Doubted: **Luke 1:**¹¹ While Zechariah was in the sanctuary, an angel of the Lord appeared to him. ¹² Zechariah was shaken and overwhelmed with fear when he saw him. ¹³ But the angel said, “Don’t be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John.... ¹⁸ Zechariah said to the angel, “How can I be sure this will

happen? I'm an old man now, and my wife is also well along in years."

¹⁹ Then the angel said, "I am Gabriel! I stand in the very presence of God. It was he who sent me to bring you this good news! ²⁰ But now, since you didn't believe what I said, you will be silent and unable to speak until the child is born. For my words will certainly be fulfilled at the proper time."

Brethren, Acts 1:7 "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority.

TIMES AND SEASONS ARE IN GOD's HANDS!

THERE COULD BE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN:

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Matthew 25:¹³ "So you, too, must keep watch! For you do not know the day or hour of my return.

GOD BLESS YOU!

2019 PRAYER POINTS

1. **Pray over today's message.** Ask for wisdom and grace to keep watch as you wait for physical manifestation
2. **For KCM to continue to fulfil its mandate as “the house of prayer for all nations” (Isaiah 56:7), extending God's love to all the nations.**
3. **Prayer for the Leaders of Nations**
For wisdom, intelligence and discernment to lead well.
Proverbs 11:14 - For lack of guidance a nation falls. Ask for them to hear the voice of God.
Pray for uncorrupt mind and practices
4. **Thank God for stopping wars in nations and ask him to help us let peace reign.**
5. **Continue to ask God to have mercy on our land, forgive our sins & heal us (2 Chro, 7:13-18).**
6. **Pray for Ministers and Missionaries.-** Ask for wisdom and grace to keep watch as they wait for physical manifestation
7. **Pray for Marriages, Children and families.** Ask for wisdom and grace to keep watch as they wait for physical manifestation
8. **Pray for Members of the fellowship for wisdom and grace to** keep watch as they wait for manifestation
- 9 **Pray for the needs of the members & the fellowship, and any special request.**
10. **Also pray for next Sunday.**