

HURRY UP

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic
By: Sis Techie Rodriguez, Elder-Founder
February 26, 2022

(To) Hurry up is to do something more quickly, to increase the motion, and pace, requiring a sense of urgency. Unfortunately, we find it difficult to wait, so we set our own timetable without consulting God nor listening to His voice. The Scripture says if we hope and patiently wait for the Lord, He will renew our strength (Isa. 40:31). Hence, we must rejoice in the Lord always, be patient in tribulation, because God answers our prayers in His time for He knows what is best for us (Rom.12:12; Ecc. 3:1; Phil. 4:4-6).

A. Biblical Accounts when Abraham & Sarah proved impatient

1. **Sarah took the role of God** – She pre-empted the plan of God because she gave Hagar, her maidservant to Abraham to bear a child (Gen. 16:1-6).
2. **Sarah tried to run ahead of God** – Sarah made her decision which upset the Lord's plan. Nevertheless, God's plans for us will always prevail, no matter how we try to alter the course of His will.
3. **Abraham pleaded for a substitute.** He laughed at the very idea because of their old age (Gen. 17:17-18). He begged God to take Ismael, his son with Hagar to be his heir to inherit all the blessings that He had promised to Abraham.
4. **He tried to change God's will.** God did not consent when Abraham insisted to accept Ismael as his heir because God made a covenant that the completion of His promise is through Isaac and He is determined to fulfill it (Isa. 14:27). Oftentimes, we try to deviate from God's will which would lead to the unlikely consequences of our action.

B. Waiting tests our Patience

1. **We should not change God's time** – God is not bounded by time; therefore, we must learn to wait for an answer to our supplication based on His time.

2. **God hasn't forgotten us.** We think God has forgotten us, but he never forgets us (Isa. 49:14). We must remember the phrase "in God's time." Indeed, we are not forgotten.

3. **We must not try to do the job quickly.** Moses, who killed an Egyptian, decided to leave Egypt and lived in the wilderness for 40 years. He should have waited for God's time/plan. Most of us take matters in our own hands, disregarding the good plans our Almighty Father has for us.

4. **We must not drag God behind.** When God tells us to do something, we should not procrastinate. Let us take the opportunity to serve Him, or else we will lose this chance. We should walk according to the Holy Spirit's leading and be not like the mules or horses controlled by bit or bridle (Ps. 32:9). Moreover, there are two dangers when we hurry up:

4.1 Rushing in quickly. To prevent ill effects of rushing, we must plan ahead armed with God's guidance.

4.2 Holding back when God is ready to act. We must not hesitate to do immediately what God tells us to do, for His blessings and graces are at hand.

Conclusion:

God's divine plan for us has already been set. Hurrying up will cause disturbance resulting in the delay of His will. No matter how pre-occupied we are with our worldly concerns, we can't hurry up nor delay what is in store for us, since everything is in accordance with God's time.

Reflection:

1. Do you seek God's will and are you patient enough to wait for His answer?
2. Have you tried practicing the virtue of patience by seeking His will in your daily affairs and concerns, instead of relying on your personal decisions?

Transcriber/Writer: Sis Zee Fuentes

Approved/Final Edited by: Sis Vera I. Tuplano

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