Trust The Lord And His Timing

Mark Roberts · Isaiah 40:28–31

INTRODUCTION

- Waiting on the Lord is hard. Waiting on the Lord is tough.
- Waiting on the Lord stretches our patience and it tests our faith and it runs our prayer life through a cauldron of fire.
- In many ways, God is a lot closer to the tortoise than he is the hare.

1 God Works Slowly

Genesis 1:1–3; Genesis 3:15; Genesis 12:1–3

- God could have done all of this immediately, in the blink of an eye, instantaneously. But the Lord didn't do that, did he?
- How long between Genesis 3.15 and Jesus' arrival? We don't know exactly, but it's a long time.
- That's not just on a national level. That also works on an individual level.
- God works slowly because he chooses to work slowly.

2 Why Do We Expect Such Immediate Solutions?

Colossians 1:9–10; Luke 18:1

- Once you know that, why do we expect such immediate solutions? We have become such an immediate society. We want everything now.
- Imagining God will proof up immediate solutions to all of our difficulties is far outside the norm of what the Bible shows us.
- Asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will and spiritual understanding so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord.
- He told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.
- If you have decided that God has to be the rabbit, that he owes us lightning, quick solutions, that what you are doing is you are setting yourself up to become angry with God.

3 To the Lord, It's the Journey That Matters

James 1:2–4; Romans 5:3–5

- Because to the Lord, it's the journey that matters. The shaping that comes as we struggle and persevere and continue and keep on keeping on.
- Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.
- Suffering produces endurance. And endurance produces character. Character produces hope.
- Our heavenly Father is more interested in our spiritual growth than in our immediate comfort and convenience.

- God is shaping us to become like his Son.

4 An Enormous Shift in Our Praying

- So much praying that we do is just about God fixing and doing and delivering.
- Lord, can I learn what you want me to learn in this mess?
- We are wanting what God wants instead of what I want.

5 Patience Is the Cardinal Virtue

- Patience is the cardinal virtue. It is about being long suffering. God is patient with me. I need to be patient with God.
- What I should expect is that God is going to work slowly, slow and steady wins the race.

6 It's Really All About Trust in God

2 Corinthians 5:7

- We walk by faith, not by sight.
- It is all about patience and trust coming together.
- If God has said that he will work things together for good in the lives of those who trust him, we must let him work.

THE CHALLENGE

When we have learned these things, then every day we can trust God's timing.

MY NOTES