

The Dangers of Procrastination

Acts 24:24-25, 27

24 And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.

25 And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

27 But after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room: and Felix, willing to shew the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.

Every time the Word of God is preached, an individual will respond to it in one of four ways:

1. Respond and obey what has been preached.
2. Reject what has been preached.
3. Ignore what has been preached.
4. Put it in the recesses of our mind and think we'll come back to it at a more convenient time.

Only one of the four choices is the correct one, but option number four is where most people who sit on the fence reside. By nature, we are a people who like to procrastinate.

Coming from Chicago, I am fascinated by the Great Chicago Fire that started on Oct 8, 1871. The Watertower is one of the only structures that survived the Great Chicago Fire.

In reading the autobiography of D.L. Mooney, the night before the great fire started, he finished his preaching with this statement, "Go home and consider this week what to do with Christ. Next week come back and tell me what you have decided." The Great Chicago Fire, burned his church to the ground, and that group of people never assembled together again.

How many times have we witnessed it ourselves? How many moves of the Holy Ghost have been procrastinated away? How many revivals have been procrastinated away? How many potential Bible studies have been procrastinated away?

2 Cor. 6:2

2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

Acts 17:32

32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter.

This is our time, this is our hour, this is our day . . . As Ronald Reagan one time said, “We have a rendezvous with destiny. “ We can’t procrastinate this visitation of God away . . .

Matt. 25:2-13

- 2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.
- 3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:
- 4 But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.
- 5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.
- 6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.
- 7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.
- 8 And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.
- 9 But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.
- 10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.
- 11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.
- 12 But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.
- 13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

The foolish took no oil in their lamps because they thought they would have more time. The danger of procrastination is the mentality it brings to the procrastinator, “I’ve gone this long and I’ve done fine. I know I need to, but I’ve got more time . . .”

The tombstone of the procrastinator will read: “Could have been so much more, but they waited.”