

UNSHAKABLE

(Part 4: WHEN GOD SEEMS SLOW)

A Lord's Flock Worship Service Topic

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Waiting can be frustrating. When our prayers are not answered immediately, we get disappointed that God seems to be slow in answering. The story of Daniel (in the Book of Daniel Chapter 10) reveals that what appeared to be a delay was God at work behind the scenes. While Daniel was waiting, God had already heard his prayer and was actively accomplishing His purpose. Hence, when delays feel discouraging, let us hold on to our faith in God's goodness and trust His perfect timing.

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WHEN GOD SEEMS SLOW

1. Daniel's Burden and His Encounter with God.

- 1.1. Daniel prayed and fasted for three weeks because he was deeply burdened by the continued sin of God's people (Daniel 10:1-4). His heart reflected God's heart. Likewise, when we are attuned with God's heart, what breaks His heart, breaks ours, too.
- 1.2. During this season of prayer, Daniel received a vision that no one else around him could see (Daniel 10:5-7). He saw an appearance of the pre-incarnate Christ in a dream or vision which is understood by many Bible Scholars to be a "Christophany." God intended the message for Daniel only, *"Understand the words which I am speaking to you; stand up, for my mission now is to you"* (Daniel 10:11).
- 1.3. Similarly, God has things He desires to reveal to each of us. His plans and purposes are unique for every believer. As we remain close and attuned with God, He gives us wisdom, direction and understanding, just as He did to Daniel.

2. God Hears Our Prayers Immediately.

- 2.1. God heard Daniel from the very first day. Although Daniel waited three weeks for the answer, God had already responded the moment he prayed. *"Do not fear, Daniel . . . from the first day you made up your mind to acquire understanding and humble yourself before God, your prayer was heard"* (Daniel 10:12).
- 2.2. God hears us immediately, even when the visible answer takes time. When answers seem delayed, continue trusting. A delayed answer is not a denied prayer. God answers

every prayer: either "yes", "no", or "wait." The hardest answer is "wait."

- 2.3. God has heard every prayer and is already at work to its completion.

3. God's Delay Does Not Change Our Value.

- 3.1. Daniel was reminded twice that he was greatly loved and precious to God. His value never changed during his waiting period. *"Do not fear, beloved. Peace! Take courage and be strong"* (Daniel 10:19).
- 3.2. We are very precious to God, and waiting does not mean He has forgotten us. God lifts us because He loves us. *"But you, Lord, are a shield around me; my glory, you keep my head high"* (Psalm 3:3).

4. Waiting Produces Spiritual Gifts (Isaiah 40:31).

- 4.1. **Perseverance.** We develop our endurance, steadfastness, and spiritual strength. We are not merely surviving the delay; we are growing through it. The longer we wait, the better and stronger we get.
- 4.2. **Joy.** We learn to find satisfaction in Him. Even when prayers seem unanswered, let us rejoice because we know God is at work behind the scenes and He is faithful to His promises.
- 4.3. **Peace.** We begin to surrender everything to God, which gives peace that surpasses all understanding (Phil. 4:7). Peace is not the absence of waiting; it is God's presence in the waiting.

CONCLUSION:

Waiting is not simply the space between prayer and answer. It is a sacred season in which God strengthens us, deepens our faith, reminds us of our value, and prepares us for what lies ahead.

No matter what we are facing, there is a God in heaven who is working all things according to His perfect timing (Daniel 2:28).

"We praise not because the present is easy, but because the future is glorious. And in the midst of interminable longings and delays, God is setting the stage for a mind-boggling, joy-expanding, never-ending celebration around his table at the marriage supper of the Lamb" (Christopher Ash).

REFLECTION:

Since God's "delay" is part of God's protection or preparation, how would this reshape the way you pray today?

SCRIBES Ministry

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