Devotion #238

**A Day Is No Big Deal To God**

**2 Peter 3:8 (NASB)** *“But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.”*

It must have been so challenging for the dear saints in Peter’s day. I can’t imagine how they were dealing with the desperate times of persecution as it dragged on and on, day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year. During times like that people not only get weary but they get to the point were they lose hope. It was that way during the world wars not so long ago. Many soldiers and their families hoped and prayed that the end would come much quicker than it did. But those times would also drag on with many families not seeing or hearing from their loved ones for months or even a year or so. And even now, we are almost at one year of COVID-19 and mostly people are just getting used to it, but, for many, it just seems like it will never end.

When life gets this way, when bad or frustrating circumstances don’t seem to be getting better, the followers of Christ begin to look more and more for His second coming. We often find ourselves asking and praying, “How long Lord? When will you come and make all things right? When will you come and settle or rid us of the evils of this life? Today couldn’t be soon enough.”.

That is exactly what was happening in the hearts of those dear saints in Peter’s day. They had had enough. So Peter reminds them that time is only something that is a concern for us. Not that time is unimportant to God, but He is not bound to time like we are. We live by every tick of the clock. Every moment is measured by the time we have on earth, so we often feel things need to happen now because in the big scheme of life we don’t have that much of it.

But Peter reminds the believers that, for God, time is on a very different scale. In fact, by the way Peter says this, we get the understanding that time is not for God at all. Time is only for us. And that stands to reason because God created all things which puts Him outside of time as we know it. Plus, God has told us that He has always been. There is no beginning or end with Him. **Psalm 90:2 (NASB)** *“Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God*.” Even when Moses was on the mountain hearing from God for the first time, Moses asked God what was His Name, to which God said, **Exodus 3:14 (NASB)** *“God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM’; and He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, “I AM has sent me to you*."’.”

God has not forgotten any of His people, but we must remember that time for Him is a non-issue. What God is more concerned about is offering everyone an opportunity to repent and come to know Him. Notice the next truth that Peter brings up. **2 Peter 3:9 (NASB)** *“The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance*.”

When you and I get impatient waiting on God to do away with evil, He is working to get His message of hope of salvation into the hearts of all people. Jonah had to learn this message the hard way as God wanted him to deliver the message of repentance to Nineveh, but Jonah wanted them to be judged. So in an attempt to keep God from getting the message to those wicked people, he fled. But God would not let His purposes be wasted because Jonah was impatient. (Jonah 1-4).

Listen to the reminder from the Lord, Beloved. God is patient with all people, giving everyone the opportunity to hear about repentance and forgiveness and salvation. We, too, must remember that God was patient with us. So let’s trust God for His timing. He will come! He will judge in His time. Our job is to continue to deliver the message of hope to all those who will spend eternity in hell if they don’t hear and respond - even those we struggle with the most.