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To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
Ecclesiastes 3:1 (KJV)

Thought for today...

“Sit.” “Stay”! These are probably the last words that ‘Fido’ the dog wants to hear, given that he can see and smell a tasty morsel just up ahead. He likely wonders “Why on earth is my master telling me to sit and stay? Doesn’t he see what I see? Doesn’t he know that there’s a delicious treat just over yonder, waiting for me to retrieve it?”

Sometimes, many of us are like ‘Fido’. We strain and pull on the leash that we believe God has us on, desperate to propel ourselves forward. We cannot understand why He won’t let us have that job, car, ministry, house or relationship **now**; doesn’t He realise how happy it would make us?



In the Book of 1 Samuel 30, we read how King David and his men on returning to Ziklag from war, find that the city they are temporarily calling home, has been burnt to the ground and their wives, children and livestock have all been taken by the Amalekites. **‘So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep.’** 1 Samuel 30:4 (NIV). Even though David’s wives and possessions had been taken and he was greatly distressed, rather than act from a place of emotion, he asked the Lord what he should do.

‘So David inquired of the LORD, saying, “Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?”

And He answered him, “Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all.” 1 Samuel 30:8 (New King James Version).

Faced with this situation, I wonder whether our immediate response would have been as David’s was? Surely, it was his right to take action and exact vengeance on those who had stolen from him? Instead, he chose to ask the Lord and wait for His response.

Perhaps your current situation finds you frustrated and impatient, as you encounter (what you perceive to be) needless delay after delay, whilst watching those around you (seemingly) prospering in their endeavours. Psalm 37:7 reminds us to: **‘Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.’** (NIV).

King David testifies **“Many, O LORD my God, are Your wonderful works which You have done; and Your thoughts toward us cannot be recounted to You in order; if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.”** Psalm 40:5 (NKJV - note that some Bible versions translate the word ‘thoughts’ as ‘plans’). As followers of Christ, we can rest in the assurance His Word gives concerning His thoughts and plans for our lives, but there is a scheduled time for them to happen! Exodus 9:5 tells us: **‘And the LORD appointed a set time, saying, Tomorrow the LORD shall do this thing in the land.’** (KJV).



God’s ‘tomorrow’ timing may seem like an inordinate delay given our ‘today’ mindset, but for those who trust and wait on Him, we can be confident that when He gives the command for us to move - to pursue, overtake and recover all - nothing and no one, no power on earth, or force in hell can hinder us!