AND NOW WHY TARRIEST THOU?

Acts 22:16

Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION

1. This question was asked of Saul.
2. Why Saul had tarried unto this time:
   (1) When Jesus appeared, Saul did not even know who Jesus was – Acts 9: 5 – 6.
   (2) Jesus told Saul to go into the city and it would be told him what to do – Acts 9:6.
   (3) Ananias came and told him what to do and asked him this question.
3. Saul, before Jesus appeared to him, had been an unbeliever – I Tim. 1:13.
4. I ask the question to some of you NOW – “Why tarriest thou?”

I. ARE YOU TARRYING FOR GOD TO GIVE YOU FAITH?

1. Many believe that faith is a direct gift of God.
2. Many think you can pray for faith.
3. Faith is not a direct gift – neither can you pray for it.
4. How FAITH comes:
   (2) By hearing God’s word preached – Rom. 10:17; Acts 2:37; 8:12.
   (3) Faith is produced in the heart by the Word of God.

II. ARE YOU WAITING FOR GOD TO CONVERT YOU?

2. We need not pray for a baptism of the Holy Spirit, nor for a “gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit”, because the Bible does not teach that is the way man is saved.
3. The gospel is God’s power to save – Rom. 1:16; Psa. 19:7; James 1:21.

III. GOD HAS DONE ALL THAT HE CAN UNTIL YOU DO SOMETHING.

2. Christ has done His part – Gal. 2:20.
4. We are invited to be saved – Matt. 11; 28 – 30; Rev. 22:17.
5. We are persuaded to accept the invitation – 2 Cor. 5:11; Rom. 11:22; Heb. 10:31.
7. The church invites you to be saved – Rev. 22:17.

IV. SOMEONE SAYS, “I TARRY BECAUSE I WANT TO FEEL RIGHT”:

1. “Feeling ” is the result of belief, whether right or wrong.
3. The eunuch felt better when he obeyed the gospel – Acts 8: 39.

V. SOME SAY THEY ARE TARRYING UNTIL THEY “GET BETTER”:

1. We are not born into the world full-grown.
2. We do not come into the church full-grown – I Pet. 2: 1-2; 2 Pet. 3:18; Heb. 5: 12 – 14.
3. Paul said he had not attained perfection – Phil. 3:13 – 14.
4. We will not be tempted above what we are able to bear – I Cor. 10:13.

VI. SOME ARE WAITING FOR OTHERS TO DO RIGHT ??
1. You cannot help them while you are out of Christ.
2. Would this be a valid excuse if Jesus should come?
4. This is a personal matter – Acts 2:40; Phil. 2:12.

VII. SOME SAY THEY TARRY BECAUSE IT IS NOT CONVENIENT.
2. We should accept him in our youth – Eccl. 12:1.
3. It should be done today – Heb. 4:7.
4. It should be done NOW – 2 Cor. 6:2.
5. Delay is dangerous.

CONCLUSION
1. I say to some today, “Why tarriest thou?”
2. There is no better time than NOW!

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