

Hurry, Hurry, Hurry

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.—II Peter 3:9

I don't know about you but I live life in a hurry. I need to get to work in a hurry, write a paper quickly, and rush to one meeting after another. I even need to get housework done quickly. It does not help that we live in an instant society. People look for instant gratification from instant food in the microwave to instant information on the internet.

All of our rushing sabotages our time of prayer and thoughtful reflection in the Word of God. We get discouraged when answers to our prayers are delayed. We get frustrated when people don't act as quickly as we think they should to do the will of God.

Today, I was struck with the contrast in the lives of Bible characters. Joseph had to wait for many years to see God put him in the place that had been foretold in his dreams as a child. Caleb and Joshua had to wander in the wilderness for 40 years because of the lack of faith in others. David was anointed king and then had to wait many years to take the throne.

The Messiah birth was prophesied by Isaiah about 700 years before the event. Now we are looking for the imminent return of Jesus. We expect it at any time so why doesn't God hurry? Even though we know He is longsuffering and waiting for the final soul to repent, we look longingly, hoping He will hurry.