February 1959.

730 Pecan Avenue West Sacramento California
Westward-Ho tr.Pk. Space 4.

"WHAT ARE YOU WAITING ON"?

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Dear brethren and sisters;-

In Acts the 24 th chapter,where Paul was making his defense before Agrippa,we are told,"As he reasoned of righteousness,temperance, and judgment to come Felix trembling,and answered Go thy way for this time; when I have a convinient season,I will call for thee"; verse 25. Yes, Felix was WAITING for "a more convinient season". It is always an easy matter for us to find an excuse for not obeying the Lord, if we wish too.In Lk.14:15-24; we have three excuse makers; none of which were justified. In verse 18,we have a man who had bought a piece of land and must needs go see it: in verse 19 we have a man who had bought 5 yoke of oken,and must needs go prove them. In verse 20 we have a man who had married a wife,and therefore, could not come. All of these would be plausable excuses in comparison with excuses usually offered why we do not do our duty towards God.

Most especially the fellow who had married him a wife. But were they excused? Nay, verily. Read verse 24; For I say unto you, that none of those men which were bidden shall taste my supper".

The devil has certainly made a good job of making it easy in these modern days to find and excuse for being delinquint of our Spiritual welfare. Our boys and girls are told,they must learn to dance to improve their physical condition and prepare themselves for society. And it takes quite a fight to get children excused from being forced to learn to serve the devil by dancing.

Yes, they too must take part in athletics in order to be able to make their grades.Thus educating them to the lust of the flesh; even if it causes them to miss a chance to learn a lesson from God's eternal word. The main days for worship, Saturday and Sunday, are taken over by satan offering all kinds of amusements to fulfill the lusts of the flesh. See 1 Jno.2:15-17; Rom. 8:12-14. Dear one, if you are in doubt as to whether these are a lust of the flesh or not:read Rom.8:14,"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God,they are the sons of God". Can any one,with a streight face, say,they are led by the Spirit of God into these things??

My dear friend,who is guilty of these things,dont do like Felix, WAIT for "a more convinient season" to forsake these things and begin to serve the Lord as it is written in his holy word. To my sinner friend who may be confused,and is waiting for some act of God to begin their service to God; I will give scriptural answers to the following excuses.

Are you waiting for saving power? If you are,you need not wait any longer,for you have that power within your grasp; for Paul says the Gospel is God's power to save; Rom.1:16;

Are you WAITING for converting power? If you are ,you have it already;"For the law of the Lord is perfect converting the soul--";Ps.19:7.

Are you WAITING"for sanctifying power"? If you are; you must be sanctified by God's truth,Jno.17:17; 2 Tim.2:20,21. All you have to do is to apply God's TRUTH by obeying it,and then you are sanctified, 2 Tim.2:21.

Atre you WAITING FOR POWER TO MAKE YOU PERFECT IN EVERY GOOD WORK? If you are; the scriptures given by inspiration of God does that; see 2 Tim.3:16,17.

Are you WAITING for God to give you faith?If you are he has already furnished the evidence to produce faith;Rom.10:17;Acts 15:7,8;Jno.17:20.
Are you waiting for God to love you? If you are he already does that, and has demonstrated it in the strongest terms. Jno.3:16.
Are you WAITING for light? If you are you already have that;all you have to do is to open your heart and let it in.Ps.119:130.
Are you WAITING for saving grace? If you are it is already hear as a TEACHER;Tit.2:11,12; Acts 20:24.
Are you WAITING for understanding? If you are; just let in the word of God,Ps.119:130.
Are you WAITING for God to be reconciled to you? if you are you are wrong; you must get into Christ where God is reconciling the world to himself;2 Cor.5:19,20.
Are you WAITING for pardon without forsaking your ways and thoughts? If you are you must forsake them to get pardon, Isiah 55:7,8.
Are you WAITING for God to purify your heart? If you are,you have what is necessary for that at hand--FAITH Acts 15:9.
Are you WAITING AND PRAYING for God to be willing to save you? If you are,he is already willing; all that is left is for you to obey. 2 Peter 3:9.
Are you WAITING for God to have mercy on you?If you are you must confess and forsake your sins to obtain mercy,Prov.28:13.
Are you WAITING for God to remit your sins? If you areall you have to do is to obey the Lord and he will remit your sins;Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16.
Are you WAITING to be made clean? If you are, the WORD makes you clean by your obedience to it;Jno.15:3.

Are you WAITING for God to purify your soul?If you are; God does that by your obedience to the TRUTH; 1 Pet.1:22.
Are you WAITINGto be made free from sin?If you are; you are made free from sin by obeying from the heart that form of doctrine delivered to you; Rom.6:17,18.
Are you WAITING for God to accept you? If you are; you must fear God and work righteousness and you will be accepted with him;Acts10:34.35.
Are you WAITING to get religion? If you are that is something you must do;Jas.1:27.
Are you WAITING for God to save you? If you are; you must obey these commands,Mk.16:15,16.
Are you WAITING for the Spirit to come into your heart and regenerate you? If you are,remember the world cannot recieve the Spirit. Jno.14:17.
Are you WAITING for the new birth? If you are,remember,when"you purify your heart in obeying the truth---- 1 Pet.1:22; you are ---being born again----;1 Pet 1.23.
Are you WAITING for God to make you a new creature? If you are, you must be baptized INTO Christ (Rom.6:3); where you will be a new creature;2 Cor.5:17.
Are you WAITING till you can PRAY THROUGH? If you are, Remember in Acts 10:-- Cornelius did NOT pray through. Notice verses 1,2 shows this man not only a good man,but a PRAYING man. Verses 3-6 shows an angel visiting him and telling him to send for Peter;"He shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do". Note ther was something for Cornelius to "DO". Verses 7-21 shows their going to where Peter was and their contact with him.Verse 22 shows us the angel told Cornelius that he should,"Hear words of thee"(Peter).Verses 23- 31 shows their overnight stay with Peter;and theirs and Peters arival back at Cornrlius' house.Verse 32 quotes Cornelius as telling Peter the angel told him,"when he cometh,he shall speak unto thee".But in verse 33, Cornelius added,"We are all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God".

In Acts 11:--1-13; when Peter went back to Jeruselem the Jews call- him on going in unto the Gentiles,and also shows his defende of the matter. In verse 14 Peter quotes the angel as telling Cornelius that that he,Peter,"shall tell thee words whereby thee and thy house shall be saved". Now dear reader what did Peter tell Cornelius to do? Go back to Acts 10:48;"And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.---" Hence we see this good PRAYING MAN did NOT PRAY THROUGH: but had to complete his obedience in baptism,at which point he was saved;Acts 11:14.

Acts 9:1-10 we see Paul(Saul) getting letters to Damascus to go bind christians to be brought to Jeruselem to be punished,but we see him stricken down and sent by the Lord to Damascus. Verse 11, shows he was praying. Verses 12-16 shows the Lord sending Ananias to PaulVerses 17,18 shows Ananias coming to Paul,and Paul recieving his sight, and being baptized. So we see Paul did not pray through. Acts 22:16; where Paul rehearsed his own conversion,quotes Ananias as saying,"And now brother Saul,why tarriest thou,arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins calling on the name of the Lord."

Note; He did not tell him to PRAY THROUGH and the Lord would bless his soul: nay ,verily; but he siid"----be baptized and wash away thy sins calling on the name of the Lord.

And that,dear sinner friend is what you will have to do. If Paul nor Cornelius could not pray through, neither can you. Jesus himself said,Mat.7:21;"Not every one that saith unto me Lord,Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of heaven--" note, they could not pray through by saying Lord Lord; but what must they do? Get the rest of the verse;"---but he that doeth the will of my father which is in heaven".

And that is what we have shown you all the way through this article.Let me beg you to end your "WAITING" as I have shown you the folly of it: and obey the Lord and make sure of a home in heaven. And I pray the Lord this will be your decision.With love and a prayer for everyone ;I am as ever ,your's in Christ,

J.S.Bedingfield

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OUR MAIL BOX.

Brother and sister Ira Brown were with us Sunday, February 1,1959 And We enjoyed them very much. They brought us news of the debate between brother Winchester and brother J.D.Logan.

Brother Brown reported that after the discussion,two came over from the brethren who break the bread in the Lord's supper only as they eat it. He also reported brother J.G.Condor and wife were still unable to attend church. We know how these good people miss that grand rite the Lord has given us, to eat and drink at his table in his kingdom; and pray they will soon be able to take their place in the ranks,fighting valliently for the truth as has always been his practice.

Brother J.V.Wood of 214 West Marshall, Midwest City,Oklahoma,writes They have been having some sickness in their congregation,but things were improving. Otherwise he reports all is weld with the faithful in these parts.

I am encouraged to know they enjoy my feeble effort at getting out a lesson for the brethren and trying to keep the news of the church in general before the people... Brother Wood is a faithful soldier of the Lord; and I know they must have a wonderful congregation at that place.

Brother Robert E.McCay of Route 2,Box 482-A Port Orchard Washington writes he and brother Don Smith are still meeting togather..While brother McCay lives at Port Orchard; brother Don Smith lives at Shelton Washington; some 42 miles apart. He writes they meet one Lord's day at Port Orchard and the Next at Shelton. They would be very much pleased if any faithful brethren should be in their parts,thacy would call on them and assemble with them while there.

One item of his letter was especially interesting to wife and I. He tells me Brother Don Smith's wife is the daughter of Brother Will and Mary Daniels. So now we both feel really at home with the Smiths as well as with the McCays; for we worshiped with brother Will and sister Mary in the Valley in New Mexico. They are a wonderful couple and raised a [illegible] family.

Brother McCay reports they have six members that are regular attendants;one brother who works for Weather is talking of moving to Washington D.C. We were very glad to get this good newsy letter as it makes us know all is well also at Yakima, Washington,and Eugene Oregon, where more of the McCays hold out.

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Brother Coy Garrison of 509 Chickasaw Trace,Grand Prairie Texas, writes all is well in his locality,and that he had baptized a very fine young man at Hillsboro Texas; the son of Brother Frank Payne. We all rejoice in this good news,as it means one more soldier for the Lord's army to fight the battle for the truth. He also wrote things were O.K. at Nocona Texas,where his brother Foy holds out with a faithful band.

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Brother D.E.Atchley of 1518 West Broadway,Elk City Oklahoma, writes, He and sister Atchley had spent November and December 1958 visiting their daughter in Boulah Colorado; and while there they had the Bord's supper with their daughter each Lord's day. But the sad part is;there is no known faithful congregation in reach of their daughter where they could worship.So,If any one knows of a faithful member,or members in reach of Boulah Coloradowrite Mrs Jesse Kent,Route 1, Box 110, Boulah Colorado. And brethren,if any of you are near there and could make it posible to hold a meeting there;no one knows the good that might be accomplished. Here would be a good place to send a faithful man to do a little Evangelistic work.How about it brethren?
We were very glad to get this newsy letter as it makes us know all is well with the faithful at Elk City Oklahoma as this is their home congregation.

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Brother L.C.ENgland of 358 North Gretna Avenue,Whittier California, writes ,sister England is able to be up a little more than usual. And he also writes sister Ella Cavin is in very bad health. We regret very much th hear of the illness of both these good sisters; and our earnest prayers to our heavenly Father is that they will both soon be restored to health again.

He also write the congregations in his part are going along on the gospel trail.

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I am glad to get all these good newsy letters as the brethren at large enjoy knowing how you do in other parts . And let me add, it is encouraging to all.The Lord willing I will write again on, "WHAT ARE YOU WAITING ON"?May God bless us all to the unity Jesus prayed for.Your's in Christ,

J.S.Bedingfield.