



S E R M O N G U I D E

## No Limits with Pastor Delman

#### What To Do When God Takes His Time

Genesis 15:1-6

# **NOTES** INTRODUCTION As believers, we have all faced times when God takes His time to manifest His promises or your requests. This is the dilemma that faced Abram in Genesis 15. He has a promise from God, but it seems as if God is taking His sweet time. Abram found himself at that point where most people never realize their dream or experience what God has for them because the passage of time causes them to give up on God. So in this message, we're going to learn a lot from the story of Abram and take away some lessons on what we need to do when God takes His time fulfilling a promise He's given you. **KEY POINTS** 1. Remain Open To God's Word Scripture says, "After this the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision." God, knowing what Abram needed, at the time he needed it, spoke a word to address his deepest frustrations. In order for that word to be planted in his heart, Abram had to remain open to God's Word. The Bible teaches us that God is not a man that he should lie; that God is a God who always keeps His promises. This is why the prophet Isaiah said, "the grass withers, the flowers fade, but the Word of the Lord will stand forever." Even though Abram had questions about where he was in life, he knew he had to continue trusting God's Word. 2. Don't Allow What You See To Discount What God Has Said There is fear that is associated with trust when you do not know the outcome or what is going to happen. So when we read that God counseled Abram not to fear, we learn that fear was beginning to knock on the door of Abram's heart. We all face doubts, fears, and uncertainties in life every now and then. Frustration with the passage of time gives way to fear when the situation we are facing becomes our focus over the Savior we serve.

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This is why Hebrews 12:2 admonishes us to, "Fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." Because when we take our eyes off Jesus and start looking at the circumstances, we become afraid. This is why we have to learn to focus more on God and less on what's happening in front of us. If God promised us something, even if we don't see how that promise is going to come to fruition, we have to trust that we serve a God who always keeps His Word.

### 3. Remember God Is Your Shield And Your Reward

As believers we must guard our hearts so that our spirits do not succumb to the fallacy of fear. The Bible says that God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of love, power, and of sound mine (2 Timothy 1:7). The Lord tells Abram, and us, why we don't have to be afraid. He tells Abram that He will be his shield and his reward.

This is not something God just gave to Abram but to us as well. When uncertain times come upon us, He will be our shield, protecting us in times of danger. He will also be our reward. When God is taking His time, He is preparing a reward for you. Do not let the devil get a foothold in your life. Do not allow the voice of doubt to seep into your head. Continue to pray, continue to stay sharp reading the Word of God, and continue to trust that God is your shield and your reward.

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## **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

- 1. Do you find yourself continuing to spend time in God's Word the longer you have to wait for something, or is easy for you to get discouraged from reading your Bible when you're in a waiting season?
- 2. When was a time it was difficult to trust God based on what you saw happening in front of you? What did you learn from that situation?

3. How have you seen God protect you in the midst of a waiting season?