

# Not Now

New Series "NOW" it ought to be a 3 part series but who knows

Next week I will cover Right now then New now

But before I get to those I need to present today's message to you.

How many of you believe that very often the most beneficial message you hear is not the most pleasant message that you hear - today is that message.

If we desire for the Will of God to be done in our lives we must submit to the timing of God.

You can do the right thing at the wrong time and it will be ....wrong

Isa 55:8-9 (NAS95) "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. [9] "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.

I would like to add and My time is not your time and your time doesn't determine My time says the Lord.

I have discovered the hard way that I can't force God to move at my pace

Actually no one can force God to move at their pace.

Joh 7:2-5 (TPT) Now the annual Feast of Tabernacles was approaching. [3] So Jesus' brothers came to advise him, saying, "Why don't you leave the countryside villages and go to Judea where the crowds are, so that your followers can see your miracles? [4] No one can see what you're doing here in the backwoods of Galilee. How do you expect to be successful and famous if you do all these things in secret? Now is your time—go to Jerusalem, come out of hiding, and show the world who you are!" [5] His brothers were pushing him, even though they didn't yet believe in him as the Savior.

Joh 7:6 (AMPC) Whereupon Jesus said to them, My time (opportunity) has not come yet; but any time is suitable for you and your opportunity is ready any time [is always here].

What Jesus was saying was since they did not know the Will of God they had no appreciation for the timing of God and therefore anytime was good for them.

Gal 6:9 (NASB) Let's not become discouraged in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not become weary.

Gal 6:9 (TPT) And don't allow yourselves to be weary or disheartened in planting good seeds, for the season of reaping the wonderful harvest you've planted is coming!

Coming but not yet.

Isa 49:6-9 (CEV) Now the LORD says to me, "It isn't enough for you to be merely my servant. You must do more than lead back survivors from the tribes of Israel. I have placed you here as a light for other nations; you must take my saving power to everyone on earth." [7] Israel, I am the holy LORD God, the one who rescues you. You are slaves of rulers and of a nation who despises you. Now this is what I promise: Kings and rulers will honor you by kneeling at your feet. You can trust me! I am your LORD, the holy God of Israel, and you are my chosen ones. [8] This is what the LORD says: I will answer your prayers because I have set a time when I will help by coming to save you. I have chosen you to take my promise of hope to other nations. You will rebuild the country from its ruins, then people will come and settle there. [9] You will set prisoners free from dark dungeons to see the light of day. On their way home, they will find plenty to eat, even on barren hills.

2Co 6:2 (NASB) for He says, "AT A FAVORABLE TIME I LISTENED TO YOU, AND ON A DAY OF SALVATION I HELPED YOU." Behold, now is "A FAVORABLE TIME," behold, now is "A DAY OF SALVATION"—

You just jumped 750 years through time.

From the moment of the fall of man in the garden God spoke words of grace and said that the seed of woman was coming and he would crush the head of the serpent.

How many years had passed from that voice of Grace to the arrival of the one who brought Grace and truth?

From the time of Isa prophesying of the acceptable time till the time Paul said Now is the favorable year was 750 years.

3 quarter of a millennium.

How many priest went into the holy of holies expecting the fulfillment of Isa words.

Is this the year? Is now the year of favor

Then the voice of Grace would say, "it's coming but Not Now."

The Psalmist would cry out, "How long O' Lord how long?

In Luke 2 we read the story of two amazing servants of God and old man named Simeon and an old woman named Anna.

They had been positioned at the temple we don't know for how long but we do know that it was years they waited for the messiah.

Simeon had been promised he would not die until he saw the messiah.

How many people had passed him as he wondered, Lord, is that the One? Is today the day?

They had both long outlived the average life span of the day - how long O' Lord.

Is today is the day? Not Now!

## To trust the Will of God is to trust the timing of God.

Gal 4:4 (NAS95) But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,

What made it the fullness of time?

Some would say it was the Roman roads or the modern modes of communications but we really don't know what made the time right - God does and He determined the right time.

We think that God's yes means yes now & and that God's not now means not ever!

But the word YES is not the same word as NOW and DELAY is not DENIAL

Americans hate to hear a message on waiting.

We are burdened with an instant gratification culture. Everyone wants instant everything.

But how many of you know god is not an American. Instant gratification.

Waiting grates on our flesh, it trains our flesh.

Patience is painful.

Gal 6:9 (NASB) Let's not become discouraged in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not become weary.

Abraham and Sarah had decided that they could not wait. They jumped ahead of God

Gen 16:12 (NASB) "But he will be a wild donkey of a man; His hand will be against everyone, And everyone's hand will be against him; And he will live in defiance of all his brothers."

There is a great scene in Braveheart.

The English cavalry is bearing down on the ragtag Scottish. They had no horses, no lances.

No army had ever overcome the English cavalry

## Hold! Hold! Hold!

Sometimes everything in you wants to move, to say something, to do something - anything but you keep hearing God say, "Hold, Hold, Hold."

Heb 10:36 (NASB) For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.

You don't need patient endurance before you have done the will of God.

You don't yet have the seed of obedience into the ground

I don't need patience while waiting for a check from a company I don't work for.

Its after you have the seed in the ground that you need patience.

But your seed of obedience will blossom

Delay is not Denial