

# Choosing Patience

1 Samuel 26:5, 7-12

- I. "David, speed things up," 1 Samuel 26:8.
- II. "The Lord forbid..." such impatience, 1 Samuel 26:11.  
Impatience attempts to speed things up through human effort.
- III. "I'll wait on God's time," 1 Samuel 26:10. Patience depends entirely upon God's "speed."
- IV. How we choose patience.
  - A. Understand the consequences of impatience.
    1. Impatience intrudes upon God's supreme control. Always creates confusion and conflict, Genesis 16:1-5.
    2. Impatience insults God's intelligence.
      - a. God scheduled our lives, Psalm 139:16.
      - b. "Forcing" things to speed up ignores His intelligence.
    3. Impatience always misses God's "way" and slows things down, Proverbs 19:2, 21:5; Exodus 2:11-12, 15.
  - B. Wait for God to act, 1 Samuel 26:10.
    1. "God...acts on behalf of those who wait for Him," Isaiah 64:4; 1 Samuel 31:6.
    2. "Waiting" is not inactivity: Is calm diligence.
      - a. Jesus "waited" 18 years, Luke 2:41-42, 51, 3:23.
      - b. Joseph waited 20 years.
    3. The ability to wait comes from trust in Father's timing, Acts 1:7; Psalm 31:14-15.
  - C. Yield to your indwelling patience.
    1. We most often focus on human impatience.
    2. Let's redirect our attention to the Holy Spirit in us, 1 Corinthians 6:17.
    3. Quit discrediting self and give credit to the other Person in you, Galatians 5:22.
    4. When feeling pushed by "impatience," believe in your powerful indwelling patience, John 14:16, 16:15; Philippians 4:13.

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