**No Hurry?**

**Introduction**

1. Song – “No Hurry” (Zac Brown Band):
   1. After singing about putting aside responsibilities to relax fishing for a day…
      1. “When I must return
      2. To the cold cold ground
      3. Have 'em take their time
      4. When they lay this sinner down
      5. Heaven knows that I ain't perfect
      6. I've raised a little Cain
      7. And I plan to raise a whole lot more
      8. Before I hear those angels sing,
      9. ‘Gotta get right with the Lord,’
      10. ‘Or there'll be hell to pay’
      11. But I ain't in no hurry
      12. …Ain’t in no hurry today”
   2. An example of the attitude many have in the world today – “I have time. I don’t need to ‘Get right with the Lord right now.’”
2. **Those who think there isn’t any hurry to “get right with the Lord” are foolish and naïve. Is this your mindset? Should you feel secure in the amount of time you have?**
3. The Urgency of the Gospel
4. The Attitude of Complacency
   1. ***“with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” (2 Peter 3:9).***
      1. Does this mean we have all the time in the world to make things right?
      2. Quite the opposite. (Revisit text later)
      3. **Such a mindset leads to complacency – we are on the temporary side of Jordan, not the eternal – our time is not infinite.**
   2. **Proverbs 1:20-33** – Wisdom’s rebuke of complacency:
      1. **(cf. vv. 8-19)** – warning about running with sinners.
      2. **(vv. 20-22)** – Call of Wisdom to the “***simple ones” – “O naïve ones” (NASB)***.
      3. **(vv. 23-25)** – You ignore rebuke and counsel.
      4. **(vv. 26-27)** – Destruction WILL come.
      5. **(vv. 28-30)** – Regret of rejecting Wisdom.
      6. **(vv. 31-33)** – They will eat the fruit produced by their foolishness.
         1. **Complacency** – *šalwâ*; security (genuine or false).
         2. Contrast with **VERSE 33** – true security is in the wisdom of the Lord.
      7. Idea of complacency in regard to spiritual matters:
         1. Despite the rebuke of the word – WHICH MEANS SOMETHING IS NOT RIGHT – I feel secure.
   3. **2 Peter 3:1-9** – Peter’s warning of the scoffers, and the coming judgment:
      1. **(vv. 1-2**) – Remember the word of truth! (Find security in it.)
      2. **(vv. 3-4)** – Scoffers who mock God’s promise of sending Jesus.
         1. **cf. Proverbs 1:22** – They delight in such scorn and ignorance.
         2. THEY FEEL SECURE FROM WHAT THEY OBSERVE, INSTEAD OF TRUSTING GOD’S PROMISE.
      3. **(vv. 5-6)** – REMEMBER THE FLOOD.
      4. **(vv. 7-9)** – Judgment is coming, and the longsuffering is for those who lack security to have time to find it. NOT SO THAT WE CAN FEEL LIKE WE HAVE MORE TIME.
5. The Urgent Nature of the Gospel
   1. **Matthew 24:36-44** – Jesus’ description of the day of judgment.
      1. **(v. 36)** – We don’t know when.
      2. **(vv. 37-39)** – Example of the flood during Noah’s time.
      3. **(vv. 40-41)** – Some will be taken off guard.
      4. **(vv. 42-44)** – Exhortation to watch and be ready with illustration of thief.
   2. **Matthew 24:45-51** – Parable of the Evil servant.
      1. (**vv. 48-49)** – The idea of complacency – security in ignorance – YOU DON’T KNOW!
      2. **(vv. 50-51)** – will come in his complacency when he isn’t ready.
   3. **The Bible is replete with messages of urgency! COMPLACENCY KILLS! – Reason for – cf. Mark 16:15 – GO PREACH IT TO EVERYONE!**
   4. **Ain’t in no hurry? THINK AGAIN! – Your time is limited, but you have now. SO HURRY 🡪**
6. No Hurry?
7. Time is Limited
   1. ***“And the world is passing away, and the lust of it” (1 John 2:17a).***
   2. **Cf. 2 Peter 3:7, 10** – The word of God has preserved the earth for destruction, and judgment WILL COME.
   3. **James 4:14** – We don’t know how long our life will last, but we do know its limited. (EX: Rich Man – ***“FOOL! THIS NIGHT YOUR SOUL WILL BE REQUIRED OF YOU” Luke 12:20)***.
   4. **THERE IS A HURRY BECAUSE OUR TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO… 🡪**
8. Get Right with the Lord
   1. Obey the gospel:
      1. **Romans 1:16** – NOTHING else can save you.
         1. If you don’t obey, judgment will come and you will perish. **(cf. Mark 16:15-16** – be condemned.)
         2. **Cf. 2 Thessalonians 1:8** – those who don’t obey the gospel.
         3. GOD WILL NOT SAVE YOU ANY OTHER WAY!
      2. Sense of urgency in those who obeyed:
         1. **Jews on Pentecost** – **Acts 2:42** – SAME DAY
         2. **Eunuch** **– Acts 8:36** – THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY – “here is water”
         3. **Saul** – **Acts 22:16** – DON’T WAIT.
         4. **Gentiles (Cornelius’ household)** – **Acts 10:47-48** – AS SOON AS PETER RECOGNIZED THE DIVINE IMPLICATION.
         5. **Philippian Jailer** – **Acts 16:33** – IMMEDIATELY, SAME HOUR.
      3. What happens when we delay?
         1. **Felix – Acts 24:24-27** – Until a convenient time? IT NEVER CAME.
            1. “Agrippa…gave his sister Drusilla in marriage to Azizus, king of Emesa, upon his consent to be circumcised… But for the marriage of Drusilla with Azizus, it was in no long time afterward dissolved upon the following occasion: While Felix was procurator of Judea, he saw this Drusilla, and fell in love with her; for she did indeed exceed all other women in beauty…[she] [was] prevailed upon to transgress the laws of her forefathers, and to marry Felix” (Josephus, Antiq., book 20, chapter 7, sections 1 and 2)
            2. “She was, therefore, living in adultery with him, and this was probably the reason why Paul dwelt in his discourse before Felix particularly on “temperance,” or chastity.” (Barnes’ Notes on the Bible, Acts 24:24)
            3. Hearing/obeying the gospel was put off because of sin – THERE WILL NEVER BE A MORE CONVENIENT TIME.
            4. DO NOT TRY TO CONVINCE YOURSELF THAT ONE DAY YOU WILL BE READY TO LAY YOUR SIN ASIDE, JUST NOT TODAY – DO IT NOW!
         2. **Every time we reject the gospel by delaying WE MAKE IT EASIER TO KEEP ON REJECTING IT AND DELAYING.**
   2. Repent:
      1. Paul’s call for the Corinthians to be reconciled to God – **2 Corinthians 5:9-11, 20-21; 6:1-2:**
         1. **(vv. 9-11)** – Paul understood the terror of God’s judgment, and wanted men to be ready.
         2. **(vv. 20-21)** – The Corinthians were in sin, and Paul was urging them to repent, and be reconciled to God.
         3. **(6:1-2)** – THE TIME IS NOW – DON’T DELAY.
      2. **2 Peter 3:11-15** – The time we have is not so that we can delay, but MAKE HASTE!
         1. **(v. 14)** – diligent – *spoudazō* – to use speed, that is, to make effort, be prompt or earnest. (Strong)
         2. This is a serious and urgent matter. HURRY!
      3. ***“I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:5).***
   3. ***ILLUSTRATION – Teen dying on Ride the Ducks in Branson, MO. Baptized not long before.***
9. Grow Spiritually
   1. Some, especially the youth, have the idea that they don’t need to use the PRESENT TIME to grow spiritually. There will be time in the future.
   2. This idea is foolish. The time we have NOW IS GOD’S GIFT TO GROW:
      1. **Ephesians 5:15-16** – redeem the time.
         1. **Buy up the time available now** – not a supply always available.
         2. **Days evil** – if you aren’t using them to grow spiritually, SATAN IS USING THEM TO CAUSE YOU TO BACKSLIDE.
      2. **Cf. Hebrews 5:12** – Thought there was no hurry, and digressed.
   3. **Ecclesiastes 12:1** – Do it NOW – it only gets more difficult as life progresses, and you don’t have that foundation.
   4. **2 Peter 3:18** – Exhortation to grow:
      1. **(vv. 14-15**) – Knowledge of the end coming, and exhortation to diligence.
      2. **(vv. 16-17)** – False doctrine presented which poses a threat.
      3. **(v. 18)** – Grow in the truth to avoid being led away with error. (Necessary to establish own faith by diligent study.)

**Conclusion** – Don’t make the mistake of thinking you have time. The only time you have is the time that exists now – there is need to hurry.