Understanding Delays and How to Handle It

The key to not losing faith and getting what you desire

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UNDERSTANDING DELAYS AND HOW TO DEAL WITH IT – THE KEY TO NOT LOSING FAITH AND GETTING WHAT YOU DESIRE

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CHAPTER 1

UNDERSTANDING DELAYS FROM GOD'S PERSPECTIVE

What do you do when you have a goal, put in all the efforts you can to make it come true, pray and make positive declarations and it seems the realization of your goals and the manifestation of the answers to your prayers and confessions of faith seems to be taking forever in coming?

What do you do when you have done all that you need to do and you are still not close to hitting the mark of achievement and success?

The summary of the above scenarios is called **DELAY.**

What do you do when there is a delay in the realization of your dreams?

Many of us have experienced delays in varying degrees in our lives. So may dreams and aspirations have being aborted because of the delay factor. What would have turned out to be a great career didn't even have the chance to take off because of delay ... delay in passing the exam, delay in funds coming in to pay for tuition, etc

Delays - is it a positive or a negative thing?

Well, it depends on the angle you chose to look at it. I prefer to see delays from God's perspective and I will share with you what the Spirit of God have shown me. Let us go to the time of creation.

Genesis 1: 11-12

"And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good."

The account in Genesis 1:11-12 was before man was created. God declared and commanded that the earth should bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, the Bible confirmed that the earth did bring forth. If you look at this scripture from a surface view, you would think that as soon as God spoke and gave the command, the earth immediately brought forth the trees, the grass, the herbs and the fruits in the physical realm. But this was not exactly so. An-

other scripture reveals to us that there was some sort of delay. We find this in Genesis 2:4-7.

Genesis 2: 1-7

"Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

THESE ARE THE GENERATIONS OF THE HEAVENS AND OF THE EARTH WHEN THEY WERE CREATED, IN THE DAY THAT THE LORD GOD MADE THE EARTH AND THE HEAVENS, AND EVERY PLANT OF THE FIELD BEFORE IT WAS IN THE EARTH, AND EVERY HERB OF THE FIELD BEFORE IT GREW: FOR THE LORD GOD HAD NOT CAUSED IT TO RAIN UPON THE EARTH, AND THERE WAS NOT A MAN TO TILL THE GROUND. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

Let us read the same account in English Standard Version Bible.

Genesis 2:1-7 (ESV)

"Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up---for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground---then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature."

Genesis Chapter 2 verse 1 tells us that the creation of the heavens and the earth were finished - this includes the creation of the grass, the herbs and the trees. But verses

4 - 5 reveal something worth considering. When God had finished creating the heavens and the earth there was still no physical manifestation or presence of any grass, tree, and herbs that God commanded to appear in Genesis 1:11-12 on the earth. The grass, the trees, and the herbs God commanded to be created were nowhere to be found on earth after the creation of the heavens and the earth were finished. Why? The answer is given in Genesis 2:5 - **"for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground"**

The earth didn't physically bring forth the grass, the trees and the herbs because the right conditions were not yet in place. Something's had to be in place; some conditions had to be met; something's had to happen first.

WHAT HAD TO BE IN PLACE FIRST BEFORE THE EARTH COULD BRING FORTH?

The earth could not bring forth because man was not yet in place to till or work the ground (Genesis 2:5). If God had allowed the earth to go ahead and bring forth, the whole garden would have been a forest - very bushy and uninhabitable for Adam and Eve.

Special Point to Note:

You see, when God declared, "Let the earth bring forth", the bringing forth took place in the spiritual realm, but the in the physical realm, the earth was not ready to bring forth because the right conditions - **man to work the ground,** was not yet created and in place. This is how God expects us to see delays. Never think "God didn't answer my prayers" or quit on your vision, goals and dreams because of delays. God in His infinite wisdom knows the conditions that have to be in place before what you are asking Him to do for you can work. God knows what conditions that has to be in place before you can see the realization of your dreams.

Delays do not mean failure; neither do they mean you are a failure.

Delays do not mean God didn't answer your prayers.

Delays do not mean God is not with you.

Delays does not mean impossible.

Delays do not mean it can't happen.

Delays do not mean you are no good.

Delays do not mean you have to quit.

Delays simply mean there is more work to be done to make the conditions to be right for the manifestation of our desired goals and dreams.

CHAPTER 2

UNDERSTANDING DELAYS FROM ABRAHAMS PERSPECTIVE

"And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God" (Romans 4:19-20)

Picture Abraham, a ninety nine year old man, with a wife, Sarah, who was past the age of menopause, going about telling everyone in town they' re expecting to have a child. God had promised them several years back that they were going to have a child – a son. For several years they waited for the promise to be fulfilled. As the years went by, one would have expected that they would give up because delay had kicked in.

The delay that kicked in speaks volumes and it has scientific proof to back it all up. The scientific proof is simple:

"Abraham is a ninety nine year old man, with a wife, Sarah, who was past the age of menopause, and according to scientific evaluation and proofs, Sarah had passed the age of child bearing".

They were expected to stop hoping; stop believing and stop expecting. But this didn't deter Abraham and Sarah. They continued hoping, believing and expecting. At their old age, they told everyone who came by that they were still expecting to have a child.

To the spiritually unlearned, they must have appeared silly and senile. People would call them freaks and consider them to be spooky!

No one who wants to be considered enlightened and exposed will want to have anything to do with them! Some folks would consider them as old fools with a screw loose somewhere in their brain.

But despite the delay and what people said, Abraham disregarded all contrary situations and was strong in faith!

What conditions needed to be met for the Miracle child to come?

The answer to this is found in Romans 4:19-20:

> **"And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: HE STAGGERED NOT AT THE PROMISE OF GOD THROUGH UNBELIEF; BUT WAS STRONG IN FAITH, GIVING GLORY TO GO" - (Romans 4:19-20)**

Abraham staggered not at the promises' off God. He was strong in faith

Many folks lose faith when delay sets in. We feel hopeless and give up saying "there is no use fighting a battle you cannot win"

Abraham would have followed that line of thinking and given up, but NO HE DIDN'T. He staggered not at the promises of God. He remained strong in faith despite the contrary situations that suggested that he should give up.

> **He had seen in the spirit the son that was promised, and that picture was more real than his old frail body and that of his wife.**
>
> **He maintained his confession and sure enough, Isaac was born.**

Abraham and Sarah experienced delay. It took several years for them to see the

promise fulfilled. People called them fools for believing and expecting to have a child at Sarah's expired child bearing age. But he held on to his hopes and dreams and saw his dream fulfilled. He was alive to see his son Isaac born and grow up to be a man and ready to take a wife.

This proves you can never be a fool for faith even when delay sets in and it is far stretched! Whenever you take steps of faith in God and His eternal Word, your actions will certainly pay off. Faith is the title-deed of unseen realities (Hebrews 11:1). It is the proof that what you hoped to have is yours now, no matter how long far stretched the delay is.

When acting in faith, you no longer try to convince yourself or convince God; rather, you know in your spirit that you have it made–you've got what the Word says is yours.

CHAPTER 3

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN DELAY SETS IN?

-Keep an open mind and let God guide you.

You might have to work on yourself and increase your capacity to handle your visions and goals. You might have to increase your capacity to handle what God is sending to you. This may involve getting some sort of training, education, qualification or skill. You might have to go learn something new - read more books or hire the right people and place them in strategic positions to achieve your goals.

You might need to pray more for the right person to be in the right place to get you approved for a job or contract. You might need the right man who will favour you to be transferred to your office before the promotion you desire can come.

You might need to forgive someone or make restitutions. You might need to redeem a vow you made to God or someone. It could be anything, just keep and open mind to God's Word and in your place of prayer and meditations, God will guide

you and show you what you have to do to see the physical manifestation of your dreams.

-Learn and change what you need to move forward

There are areas, habits, and ways of doing things we need to change or adjust before we can achieve success. Our job is to deeply consider and discover what we are not doing right, change or adjust them and move forward. Repeating what has brought you failure or has not moved you to another level is a manifestation of internal workings of stupidity. Adjustment should be constant - this is how targets are met.

-Focus - don't quit

Delays maybe discouraging and frustrating and if care is not taken, they tend to make us quit on the pursuit of our dreams and goals. When there are delays, we need to quickly and carefully look at what we are doing and try to discover what has kept us from achieving our goals. This is the time to learn, make corrections and implement changes and the necessary adjustments we need to do so as to move us forward.

Don't ever quit. Stay with your goal - working, learning, consulting and implement-

ing new findings and praying that all your efforts will be fruitful.

-Maintain your confession of faith and success

But in all these things maintain your confession of faith and success mixed with THANKSGIVING and hold up Romans 8:28 before you.

> **Romans 8:28**
>
> **"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."**

Regularly declare that "all things are working together for my good and in my favour"

> **Hebrews 4:14**
>
> **"Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession."**

> **Hebrews 10:23**
>
> **"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)**

Hold fast to God in faith; hold fast to your goals; hold fast to your confessions. Do not

waver, for the One whose Word you are confessing is faithful to see you through.

I recommend that you get my book on **Confessions that Works** from https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00JSZFUS0.

CHAPTER 4

POSITIONED FOR GREATNESS: UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS

"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue" (2 Peter 1:3-4).

God has positioned you for a life of glory and greatness, and to live that transcendent glory-life He has called and positioned you for, your outlook on life must be from the perspective of His Word. You must live in the light of His Word and cease to observe situations like an ordinary man.

God has already done all that's necessary for you to experience His glory and greatness here in the earth. But sadly, many Christian's folks still make the mistake of waiting for Him to do something about their situation.

Some even say they're waiting for Him to take them to the Promised Land – that

good and prosperous place, flowing with milk and honey. What such folks haven't realized is that in the mind of God they're already in the Promised Land! They got there the moment they were born again. In other words, they are already positioned in the best place they could ever be, having already come on to Mount Zion (Hebrews 12:22).

You' ve been positioned for the glory-life - a life tuned and programmed for greatness, therefore, sickness, poverty, defeat and failure are unnatural to you. Ordinary men may be susceptible to these influences, but you've been positioned for victory through the Word of God. But it is sad to note that many who were positioned for the glory-life still suffer as mere men. They still go through life struggling without seeing the fulfillment and realities of the promised greatness.

The reason for this is that they think God is a magician who does "abarakadabra" and blessings jumps out of the hat for you. They fail to understand what it means to be positioned. They expect the blessings promised to be theirs without doing something (their part) to get it.

Every blessing requires faith and every faith requires action. Every one seems to have faith for the glory-life of increased greatness promised, but not everyone will

put-in the required necessary actions to get it.

To be positioned for something or to get something is to put you on the mark for it. It means it is actualizable, reachable and have-able! It requires living the Word - Living the Promises and that is the ACTION required.

Living the glory-life or in increased greatness cannot be separated from living in the Word of God. There is no shortcut to it. Our divine positioning by God to live the glory-life of increased greatness is as real as you can see the palms of your hands, but we need to activate it by living the Word - seeing, believing and doing nothing else but the Word.

With this said, I encourage us all to begin to align ourselves with the Word and start living the Word daily - moment by moment.

OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR

All books are available in both Kindle and Paperback formats.

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