**CONFRONTING COMMON EXCUSES**

**LESSON 2 – AUGUST 24, 2025**

It’s Not A Convenient Time.

**Key Verse(s):** Acts 24:25 “And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.”

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AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Summary of the Biblical Event**

Paul had been arrested in Jerusalem after accusations from the Jews that he defiled the temple. To protect him from a violent plot, Roman authorities transferred him to Caesarea to stand trial before Antonius Felix, the Roman governor. Paul calmly defended himself, explaining that he worshiped the God of Israel, believed the Law and the Prophets, and preached the hope of the resurrection of the dead. Felix, who already had good knowledge of the Jews’ beliefs, delayed making a decision at that time. He later called for Paul again with his wife Drusilla to hear more about his faith. As Paul reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix became deeply convicted and trembled, yet instead of responding, he excused himself from acting on the truth. He sent Paul away, saying, “Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.” Sadly, as far as we can tell, that convenient season never came.



 **Examining the Motives Exposing the Flaws**

* Truth survives time, so we are unable to avoid confronting it.
* The pressure of position only gets worse with promotion.
* The only time we have control over is the present moment.
* Private willingness rarely leads to future public surrender.
* Justifying present actions will never promote Godly urgency.
* He wanted to avoid dealing with the uncomfortable truth.
* He was hoping to hold on to his position and his pleasures.
* He believed that the timing was within his control.
* He avoided the commitment a public answer would require.
* He wanted to feel good about his present inaction.

**Effects of the Excuse**

**1. Distorts our view of God’s will by placing our opinion of the timing above His.**

**Ephesians 5:16-17** — Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. 17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

**2. Diminishes the effectual, internal working of the Holy Spirit within us. (Hard Heart)**

**Hebrews 3:15** — While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.

**3. Caters to the selfish and comfort-first viewpoint permeating Christian culture.**

**Matthew 25:26** — His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

**4. Creates an inevitable cycle of repeated procrastination caused by “priorities.”**

**Haggai 1:2b, 4a** — This people say, The time is not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built. 4a Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses,



PERSONAL APPLICATION

**MV:** 2 Cor. 6:2 — Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

**Reflective Questions:**

* What are the top priorities that I seek to address each day of my life?
* Have I become a habitual procrastinator when it comes to spiritual things?

**Commitment:**

* I will truly assess my ability to act before claiming inability due to time restraints.
* I will take care of something this week that I have been wrongly avoiding in my life.

Any other reasons why Felix may not have wanted to talk to Paul that day?

How are present-day Christians able to justify delay to themselves?

Are there some moments where there might be a legitimate “better time”?

If so, how does a Christian discern when an alt. time is more convenient?

Is this excuse easier or harder to use for present-day believers? Why?