



Felix and Procrastination

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In Acts chapter 24 we are disturbed about a governor who put off making the most important decision he would ever make. A decision that we all will make at some time or another. The governor was Felix, and in verses 22-25 he was listening to a very compelling speech made by the apostle Paul. In the previous verses we learn that Paul was being charged with profaning the temple and being the leader of a sect. Take a look at Acts 24: 1-8. They refer to him as a plague in verse 5. In verses 10-21 we read of his defense before Felix. It is interesting while waiting for Lysias, Felix puts Paul under house arrest. Paul is confined, but allowed certain privileges. As we read thru verse 27, Felix is touched by the gospel. His heart is pricked, but sadly Felix puts off the most important decision of his life. In verse 25, the truth of the pure gospel brings Felix to the realization that he is going to be judged of all of his actions on earth. Felix does what most of us would do today. He procrastinated. How many times do we put off doing something that demands our immediate attention? Just as Felix, we put attention? More often than we would like to admit, I'm sure. The Bible has much to say about procrastination. For example in Proverbs 12:25 it says this, ***"Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a good word makes it glad."*** We further read in Proverbs 1:27, ***"When terror comes like a storm, And your destruction comes like a whirlwind, When distress and anguish come upon you."*** Again we go to Proverbs, and this time look at chapter 13:4, ***"The soul of a lazy man desires,***

and has nothing; But the soul of the diligent shall be made rich."

Just as Felix, we put off things we need to do. Felix had good intentions. He also believed the message of Paul, and he intended to do something about his condition one day.

We read in 2 Corinthians 6:2 these words, *"In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you."*^[a] *Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."* Friends, and Brethren the time has come for all of us to work out our own salvation. Philippians 2:12 tells us "To work out your own salvation." WE can't expect for someone to do it for us, and we cannot afford to wait, because we only have TODAY! We are not promised tomorrow!

Another lesson in this is we can't let society, friends or fellow constitutes intimate us in to not doing what is right. Paul informs us in 2 Corinthians 5:10 that all will face judgement. We never know the appointed time when the Lord will call us. Furthermore, please read Matthew 25:1-13. How did these women get in that awful fix? Because of being lazy and procrastinating to the very last moment. The door was shut that would lead them into the feast, verse 10. Their window of opportunity had past. Let's reflect on our on lives. Every day that we put off obeying the Lord, that door is closing. One day, it will close. It will be too late. Have you said, "YES" to the greatest gift of all? Obey today, for tomorrow may be too late.