

## Time to Think

Everyone has challenges in life. My husband (bless his heart!) is chronologically challenged.

It really doesn't matter how much he wants to be somewhere on time. Unless he sets his watch, once he gets into some project he drifts into an alternate reality where time simply ceases to exist.

Now, I'm a Navy brat, and these two perspectives can lead to occasional irritation. He just doesn't understand that the major point of life is to be *on time!*

But my perspective may not be entirely balanced, either! The problem is, I tend to extend my timetable just a bit too far. Sometimes, I must confess, it even seems to me that God isn't on time, either.

In the midst of a trial it feels like He forgot to set His watch, got busy with something else, and let time slip by. We human beings are bound by time, and some times we find that life is literally slipping through our fingers.

The amazing thing, however, is that God—in spite of being totally unconstrained by time, in spite of inhabiting eternity, in spite of His immortality and His immutability—is always, forever, most assuredly and accurately on time.

Over the centuries we humans have agonized over lost time. The grieving mother felt that moments were hours before Elijah raised him from the dead. (I Kings 17) The father beseeching intervention for his dying daughter thought he'd run out of time, but she lived again. (Luke 8) Can you imagine Sarah waiting endless years for the promised son to arrive? (Gen. 18) And then there are all those promises to the people of Israel, and all those prophecies about the Messiah's return. When has it been too long to trust that God will deliver on His promises?

We know that some people don't see the answers to their prayers in this lifetime. Daniel sought God earnestly and was told important information about the coming of the Messiah. But he didn't see it come to pass.

But God's timing is always right. Students of prophecy see wonderful fulfillment in the first coming of the Messiah. We stand in awe that Israel, no longer desolate, lives once again as a nation. Hebrew has emerged from liturgy and scripture to live again as a vibrant spoken tongue.

As we yearn for the fulfillment of all things and grow impatient with waiting on promises to come to pass, let's remember Rev. 21:6-7. "These things are faithful and true." God does not tarry, but sees the whole sweep of history in a glance, and He assures us, "Behold, I come quickly."