Faith Matters

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Daily Devotional, Friday, December 29, 2017 -Putting Off Procrastination

DECEMBER 29TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Acts 24:24-27

Some people like to say they are "born procrastinators." But according to Scripture, that is not acceptable for believers. Procrastination is a form of bondage in a person's life, and God, who desires the best for us, didn't design us to be enslaved.

Procrastination has two genuine causes. The first is "discomfort dodging." Many people put off taking action because of the related anxious or uncomfortable feelings, as in today's passage—fearing Paul's talk about righteousness, self-control, and judgment, Felix sent the apostle away. The second cause for putting things off is self-doubt. If we consider ourselves inadequate to complete a task, we may well choose not to begin it.

In our spiritual life, we sometimes postpone Bible reading and meditating before God because He brings to the surface matters that we need to confront. When those subjects come up, we at times choose to put off dealing with them. Issues like pride, guilt, or self-control may not be comfortable to face, but dodging them obstructs God's purpose in our life.

If we delay action, we can become preoccupied with the possibility of failure or fear of making a mistake. Then we tend to feel drained of the creativity and energy needed to tackle chores we should be doing. But putting God's assignments on hold is the same as disobeying Him.

Procrastination is no laughing matter. Are you given to delay? Identify any problem areas in your life—as well as the feelings that accompany them. Then confess your procrastination to the heavenly Father, and rely on His strength to face what needs to be done.

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