

The definition of "convenience" is — the quality of being or making things easy, useful, or of increasing comfort. The word or one its forms is used only 9 times in the entire Bible — 3 times in the Old Testament and 6 times in the New Testament. It almost always means to put off some decision or to make things more easy to do. Years ago, I was asked to help some folks move from a rented apartment, and one of the things that was in their belongings, was a book called (If my memory is correct) "1001 Put Offs'. It seems that they had put off paying their rent for a more "convenient" time. They were reaping the fruits of trying to make their obligations more "Convenient".

Acts 24:24-25 And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. (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**.

In the above Scripture, the Judge/Ruler Felix, sat in judgment of the Apostle Paul. Paul, was being accused of sedition (treason), among other things, because of his preaching of the Cross. It is evident that during the course of Paul's defense, that Felix became under the conviction of the Holy Spirit. Felix knew that Paul was correct in what he was preaching, but later bound Paul for 2 whole years, hoping to receive money or graft and to please the Jews, *the false accusers of Paul*. Felix said to the Apostle Paul, **Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee**. There is no record of Felix ever of having a more convenient time. More than likely, poor Felix died and went to a devil's hell.

The easiest way to avoid doing what is right is to just put things off. It is the easiest way, but not the right way. Hard decisions are never easy, they are hard, that is why they call them "Hard Decisions". Whether they are hard or not, they are decisions that will have to be made, Some decisions may allow some time to be made, like deciding about a new car or house. But there are some decisions that demand an immediate answer, like whether or not to hit a ball thrown in a base ball game, it could mean a strike or even an out!

However, there are some decisions that need an immediate answer, like the one that the foolish man, Felix, avoided. It is very possible that he has now been in hell for 2000 years, and he will be there forever. That kind of decision is infinitely more important than a mere baseball game. It was his soul that was at stake.

Most people that put off trusting Jesus as their Savior, do so thinking that they have plenty of time. This is not the case, as it taught in the Bible!

Romans 13:11 And that, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep: for <u>now</u> is our salvation nearer than when we believed.

2 Corinthians 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, <u>now</u> is the accepted time; behold, <u>now</u> is the day of salvation.)

I have known some people, in the past, that thought that they had more time. I stood by a dying man in a hospital. I tried to tell him of Jesus, but he cursed and told me to leave. Later, they told me they could hear his screams as he died. I knew a man, who thought he could play games with God Then came a terrible tornado and took away one of his little loved ones. Soon after he made things right with God. But it was to late to bring back the little child.

Jesus told about a man that thought that he had plenty of time.

Luke 12:16-20 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: (17) And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? (18) And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. (19) And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry. (20) But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

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