

A Convenient Time

(<https://www.harvest.org/devotions-and-blogs/daily-devotions/2018-02-17>)

Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, "Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you."—Acts 24:25

A fable is told of three apprentice devils that were coming to Earth to finish their apprenticeship. They were talking to Satan, the king of the devils, about their plans to tempt and ruin humanity.

The first said, "I will tell them there's no God."

The Devil said, "No, that is not going to work. People know there is a God."

The second one said, "I will tell them there's no Hell."

"No," the Devil said, "Most people, deep down in their hearts, know there is a Hell and a judgment to come."

The third said, "I will tell them there's no hurry."

"Go," said Satan, "and you will ruin them by the thousands."

That is how procrastination works. It doesn't say, "I'm not going to do it." That is too final, too absolute. Rather, procrastination says, "I'll get around to it later."

In Acts 24 we find the story of a master procrastinator, a Roman leader named Felix. He had the opportunity to hear one of the greatest preachers who ever lived, the apostle Paul. But Felix didn't believe the message Paul proclaimed.

It almost appears that this was Felix's moment of decision when everything came together. The conviction of the Spirit was there. The recognition of his need for God was there. He probably intellectually acknowledged the truth of the gospel. But he said to Paul, "Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you" (Acts 24:25 NKJV).

Repetition dulls truth's potency. The more we hear something, the more immune we can become to it. And when people do this with the gospel, they can become hardened to the very truth that might have softened them. In the end, they become judged by the very message that might have set them free.

News and Notes

- We will have a family picture day Sunday, March 11. These pictures are for the new directory. Receive a *free* 8x10 portrait, a printed directory, and a mobile directory just for having your picture taken. See Shannon to register.
- There will be a tri-state health churches workshop March 16-17 at the Goodland Church of Christ in Goodland KS. There is a flier on the board in the back.
- If you have a prayer request you would like added please fill out the prayer request card in the pocket of the seat in front of you or email prayer@scottsbluffchurchofchrist.org.

Birthdays

Tina Rudy	02/03	Sonie Iversen	02/29
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If your birthday has been inadvertently left off this list please let Shannon know.

Those Serving

2/18/2018

Opening Prayer	Tim	Table: West	Gary
Song Leader	Tom	Center	Jay
Scripture Reader	Shane	East	Shane
Closing Prayer	Tim	Preacher:	Joe
Devotion:	Tom	Song Leader:	Jay

Announcements: Chris

2/25/2018

Opening Prayer	Jay	Table: West	Chris
Song Leader	Shane	Center	Shane
Scripture Reader	Tim	East	Tim
Closing Prayer	Jeremy	Preacher:	Joe
Devotion:	Jay	Song Leader:	Tim

Announcements: Tom