

The Delays of Life

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Acts 26:1-11.
- B. Delay is one of the most difficult things for us to endure.
- C. Delay is part of life.
- D. Paul experienced delay in prison. The experiences of life are not always the same.
- E. We can handle the delays of life through certain lessons.

II. Delays are a part of God's plan.

- A. We should plan for delay.
- B. God's delays are appointments not accidents.
- C. God's delays are intermissions not interruptions.

III. Delays fulfill God's purpose.

- A. Purposes for delay.
 - 1. Rest.
 - 2. Spiritual refreshment.

IV. Delays demand that we trust God's promises. (Psalm 37, Romans 8:28)

V. Christ's delay in return is a part of his promise.

- A. God is patient with us--we are not ready.
- B. We all must accept Christ in this delay.

Application questions;

1. When do you experience the most delays? What have you learned about yourself in those delays?

2. How will you respond differently in the place where you experience the most delays in light of the message? Explain.

3. What promises can you trust in when there is a sudden delay in your life? Explain.
