

MCD Just Checking In #41 **Not Yet...** Willing to Wait **Pilgrim's Process**
Psalm 39:12 "Hear my prayer, O Lord... for I am a "pilgrim" with You..."

Heb 2:8-9 For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do **not yet** see all things put under him. **But we see Jesus**, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

I hate to wait. Anyone who knows me will tell you that. My driving motto isō **Keep the wheels turning, baby.**+ My uncle dubbed me **Speedy**+as a little kid because I always ran everywhere. Hey, why walk when you can run? Few words could create more angst in my soul as a child than hearingō **Not yet.**+ But God delights in patient plodding. He took six days to make the universe. He took thousands of years to bring His Beloved into the world and thousands more on the road to fulfill His promised purpose in Genesis 1 and Psalm 8. God's effective workers must learn the value of waiting.

Promise not yet fulfilled

Heb 2:8 We do **not yet** see all things put under him.

Judgment not yet executed

Ge 15:16 "But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is **not yet** complete."

Truth not yet perceived.

Mt 15:17 16:9 Mr 8:17 +Do you **not yet** perceive nor understand? Is your heart still hardened?

Things not yet ready

Joh 2:4 **My** hour has **not yet** come." Joh 7:6 Joh 7:8 Joh 7:30 Joh 8:20

Holiness not yet achieved

Heb 12:4 You have **not yet** resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.

Knowledge not yet given

1 Jo 3:2 It is **not yet** revealed what we shall be

Of all the ways we get ourselves into trouble, failing to accept the **not yet**+aspects of God's plan is high on the list. "**How long**" is a question asked over 50 times in the Bible. It is often expressed in prayers of exasperation as His people face inexplicable frustration at God's seeming slowness to respond and fulfill His promises. **Not yet**+... is hard to accept when we know that **at last**+would fulfill our longings and bring glory to God. *Still waiting* toō master a language, acquire a culture, obtain support, receive help, relieve pressure, resolve confusion, ease a pain, answer a question, find a disciple, see a soul saved, a church planted, a dream fulfilled, a vision take root, a child walk with God, a wandering one return, a fellowship restored, a team working in harmony, a kindred spirit, a prayer answered!

Go back with me to Hebrews. This letter is written to people much like us. People who wonder why a loving God *waits* to deliver, a holy God *waits* to judge and a faithful God *waits* to answer. In answer to such painful confusion the author of Hebrews does not give us easy answers, but instead points us constantly to *consider Jesus himself*.

We see *not yet* all things put rightō . *but we see Jesus*, who, after the cross, is crowned as a *king forever*. Ch 2

We see *not yet* all our prayers answeredō *but we see Jesus*, who, after the cross, is called a *priest forever*. Ch 5

We see *not yet* all our suffering overō *but we see Jesus*, who, after the cross, is seated on His *throne forever*. Ch 12

Not yet doesn't mean not ever! Isa 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning

Much that God has promised we do *not yet* see. *But we do see Jesus, our Forerunner, our Redeemer, our Priest, our Sanctifier, our Elder Brother, our Captain, our King crowned and glorified.* Take heart, O Waiter, fix your eyes on Jesus, the One who has waited and waits still, until the final day when the most glorious statement of all will come from His holy lipsō **IT IS DONE!** Rev 21:6. Every prayer finally answered, every promise fulfilled, every sin punished, every wrong righted, every grave opened, every accusation silenced, every hurt healed, every tear dried, every question answered. **No more not yet!**

Self Check Questions:

1. What are the hardest **not yet**+for you to deal with today?
2. How many ways can you list that **looking** to Jesus+helps you endure?

For Further Study: Hebrews 2:8-18; 5:1-9; 6:10-20; 10:32-12:28; Ps 94; Col 1:11; John words **time**+and **hour**+

Lord, You waited so long, endured so much, and all for me. Give me Your grace to accept the **not yet**+of today without losing faith or hope that that in your time your promise will be fulfilled and your purpose will prevail. I ask in the name of the One who has waited longer than time itself. Amen+

Remember, you are very special to us and we pray for you continually. Living with leaving in view.... Jn 9:4
Ron & Val

Seeing The Invisible, embracing The Unapproachable, declaring The Unexplainable, changed by The Immutable, running after The Irresistible with inexhaustible joy in our inexpressible sorrows, spending our time on eternity, owning nothing yet possessing everything that matters and lasts. We are Pilgrims in Paradox. Welcome to THE JOURNEY.