

*Felix trembled and answered 'Go thy way for this time, for when I have convenient season I will call for thee'*  
PROCRASTINATION...OR VICTIMS OF TOMORROW  
ACTS 24:25...26:28.

I want us to think together at this hour about procrastination or victims of tomorrow. Procrastination simply means putting off till a later date...and can certainly mean victims of tomorrow.

*written by the author*  
The words in the text are from Felix, governor of Judaea. This man was under the spell of a great conviction postponed till tomorrow for decision. Some one has called Felix a victim of tomorrow. *Such a common ailment*

"If today has slain its thousands, surely tomorrow has slain its tens of thousands."

The Bible has been likened to an art gallery in which you find the portraits of the immortals...prophets, saints, and martyrs. People who knew that the supreme business of a person is to make those decisions, on the spot, that make for characters that will live and be forever helping to form characters fit for immortality.

HORACE LAIN SAID, "FAITH IS VAPOR; popularity an accident; RICHES TAKE WINGS; THEY WHO BLESS TODAY WILL CURSE TOMORROW. ONLY ONE THING ENDURES...CHARACTER."

*For many my faith has been a vapor, but I have not*  
The Bible may also be likened to a cemetery containing the graves of those who missed the trail, had within their grasp immortality and let it slip out of their fingers. In those pages you will see the peril of procrastination, embracing the material but putting off the spiritual.

A few of those graves:

Abner of whom it was said, "Died Abner as a fool dieth." King Saul.. "I have played the fool."

Judas, "I have sinned in that I have betrayed innocent blood."

FELIX, "Go thy way for this time, when I have a convenient season I will call for thee."

Agrippa, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

Paul was prisoner and preached a sermon while in jail.

Felix was acting governor in the seat of Pilate. He was born a slave but had gained favor of Claudius and was given this appointment. His reign was marked by cruelty and bloodshed. The historian Tacitus says of Felix, "His ambition knew no bounds. As a king he ruled with the soul of a slave. And there was no crime too great for this man to commit."

Living in adultery with the daughter of Herod Agrippa he called Paul in one day to have some sport at Paul's expense. There in great pomp Felix and Drusilla sat. Standing before them was Paul the ambassador of Christ, There he stood with chains and manacles about his body. Every uncovered spot, practically, was a scar from former stonings. HIS SERMON WAS TO AN ADMISSION OF TWO BUT THE TWO WORSE SINNERS THAT COULD BE FOUND.

He are confident that Paul made a courteous introduction but not one of flattery.

He reasoned with them of righteousness, temperance, and judgment. REASONED... Christianity is a reasoning religion.

Then he reasoned concerning temperance...self control, self discipline, chastity...by that time the woman no doubt was saying "Send that fool away." "I came here to be entertained not condemned."

Then he reasoned of judgement to come. Surely he told them what he wrote to the Romans, "We shall all stand before the judgement seat."

In the year 541 Totila king of the Ostrogoths decided to take Italy from Justinian. He captured Naples and stood at the door of Rome itself. Then he asked St. Benedict "What lies ahead of me?" He answered, "Thou shalt conquer Rome." "What next?" "You shall cross the sea with your armies and conquer Sicily." "What next?" "Thou shalt rule nine years." "Then what?" "Thou shalt die and then thou shalt be judged."

"It is appointed unto men once to die but after this the judgement."

Felix was terrified and trembling said, "Go thy way for this time. When I have a convenient season I will call for thee"

But that convenient season never came for Felix. His supreme opportunity had come and gone.

"The moving finger writes and having writ,  
Moves on; nor all your piety nor wit  
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line,  
Nor all your tears wash out a word of it."

"Tomorrow I will call for thee" but tomorrow never comes for when it comes it is today. Yesterday belongs to history today to us, and tomorrow belongs to God.

"Attend to your business and I will attend to mine."

Many flowers placed on the graves of our friends may be flowers of penitance for not having done something to help the person while alive.

Margaret Sangster once sang:

It isn't the thing you do dear,  
It's the thing you leave undone  
That gives you a bit of heartache  
At the setting of the sun.

The tender word forgotten,  
The letter you did not write  
The flower you did not send dear,  
Are your haunting ghosts at night.

Felix was a victim of tomorrow in that the good impulse never came again. Luke tells that often after that Paul and Felix communed but he never mentions again that he trembled.

I will not surrender to God now because I want to have another fling or so. Some day I will change.

I know that it is cruel to worry my family with my drinking so in a few days I am going to quit...a victim of tomorrow.

Mother may I join the church? No, darling you are too young wait awhile...Oh the tragedies that I have seen follow such advice.

Deficits in church budgets that cause officials to wring their hands and tear their hair are victims of tomorrow.. Later on I will do something for the church I have this other matter to look after now.

No I will not join now, I want to think it over, I'll see you later.

There is a time we know not when  
A point we know not where  
That marks the destiny of men  
To glory or despair.

LEGEND OF THE FOUR DEVILS ....MODERATOR

NO GOD  
NOTHING AFTER DEATH  
DO NOT DECIDE TO DAY

