

Introduction: - series

I. The Delay

1. Verse 6

- why the delay?
- word comes He's sent for

2. There are times when God seems absent

- in a cloud
- in the HOH
- cannot even "look" at God
- Prayer without verbal response
- !!). God DO something

He is certainly not silent:

- law
 - prophets and messengers/ angels
 - creation itself- a seashore, or a sunrise
 - He created the Temple and tabernacle
- Jesus:

- we can see Him
- we can touch Him
- we see what the written word looks like in the modeled Word

3. "My God, my God..."

- even Jesus felt that way

II. Why the Delay?

1. He is holy

- too holy to see
- cannot bear His presence if He were to come
- if God were to roll in with justice and judgment - could we stand it?
- are you sure you want Him?

Example - an atheist challenges God to strike down

2. He is sovereign

- cannot just march into His presence
 - He is in charge not us
 - He does things His own way
 - He does not "have to" explain
- Example - Myrna - "he has to heal me"

3. For His own glory - greater glory

- more than we can realize
- why not take Him off the cross
- love for us
- we cannot appreciate His greater glory - cannot see it
- example - in my youth saw a 5 year old get spanked...

- example - Paul was blinded to see something bigger
- 4. He cannot be captured with theology, words and slogans
 - bumper sticker Christianity
- 5. Another reason... Men don't turn to Him when all is good
- 6. "Glad I wasn't there" (15)
 - gave Lazarus back
 - gave them the hope of eternity

III. It Might Be...

1. He's doing a work in your life (for someone else)
2. He will get greater glory (4)
3. He is revealing Himself - "I am the Resurrection"
 - example - Isaac at the altar - Jehovah Jireh - God who provides
 - example - provided water - He will be there
 - example - at the Red Sea they learned He would protect
 - there are things you cannot learn just by being told
4. He's on the way
 - Daniel prayer - Dan 10:10-14
 - read - 21 days before an answer