Why The Hurry?

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INTRODUCTION

- It seems like we're always in a hurry anymore, isn't it?
- Many times when we get in a hurry, it's a bad thing. We're stressed and we can't think about what we're trying to do because we need to be somewhere.
- But there are times when being in a hurry is a good thing.

1 In Every Conversion They Were in a Hurry

Acts 2:38–41; Acts 8:35–38; Acts 16:30–33

- In every case of conversion, they were in a hurry. There's a sense of urgency involved.
- In every account of conversion in the book of Acts, there was baptism. And that baptism was administered as soon as possible.
- Repent and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- So he commanded the chariots to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down both into the water, and he baptized him.
- And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized.

2 They Recognized Their Guilt Before God

Acts 2

- One reason there was a haste, a hurry, is because they recognize their guilt before God.
- Peter pointed his finger at that Jewish audience and said, You killed the Son of God. They were cut to the heart and said, What shall we do?
- These people were convicted of their sinfulness before God, and this moved them to seek their salvation, and they rightly wanted that salvation as quick as possible.
- He knew he was lost, and he knew the answer to that. And he wanted it as soon as possible.

3 Baptism Was the Point of Forgiveness

Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Romans 6:3–4

- The hurry was that they recognized that baptism was the point of forgiveness.
- He that believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned.
- And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.
- Do you not know that as many of us were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?
- Why the hurry? Because they knew that they were being baptized into Jesus and into his death.

4 They Recognized the Uncertainty of Life

James 4:13–14

- There was also the need for urgency because surely they recognize the uncertainty of life.
- What is our life? It's but a vapor that appears for a little while and vanishes away.
- If you look at the daily obituaries, you'll find out one thing. It's not just old people who die.
- In that small rural congregation, six young people have died before they reached their 25th birthday.
- You stood condemned before God and were told you needed to repent and be baptized to wash away those sins. You're not going to postpone that because you don't know.

5 Delay Is Addictive

- Possibly they were all in a hurry to obey the gospel, to be baptized for the forgiveness of their sins, because maybe they recognize that delay is addictive.
- You put something off, it gets easier to put it off. And that's true of obeying the gospel.
- But after about that 30th sermon, that 40th invitation, they're not hanging on to the pew anymore, are they? Because they put it off.
- Paul would tell Timothy about those who had a seared conscience. That is that the gospel didn't touch them anymore.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **When it comes to obeying the gospel, follow the example of the New Testament and be in a hurry.**

MY NOTES