

**A Time Called Now**  
**Pastor John Carmichael**

[2Co 1:10 NASB95] 10 who delivered us from so great a [peril of] death, and will deliver [us,] He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us,

- Too many people put the God is a time box or force Him out of the box altogether.
- He is in the box and out of the box. He is now and not yet.
- What do I mean? According to Scripture, believers are:
  - already adopted in Christ ([Rom 8:15 NASB95] 15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"), but not yet adopted ([Rom 8:23 NASB95] 23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for [our] adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.)
  - already redeemed in Christ ([Eph 1:7 NASB95] 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace), but not yet redeemed ([Eph 4:30 NASB95] 30 Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
  - already sanctified in Christ ([1Co 1:2 NASB95] 2 To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their [Lord] and ours), but not yet sanctified ([1Th 5:23-24 NASB95] 23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.)
  - already saved in Christ ([Eph 2:8 NASB95] 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, [it is] the gift of God;), but not yet saved ([Rom 5:9 NASB95] 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath [of God] through Him.)
  - already raised with Christ ([Eph 2:6 NASB95] 6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly [places] in Christ Jesus,), but not yet raised ([1Co 15:52 NASB95] 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.)
- Truth in tension. We are learning to live in the now while waiting for the not yet.

**Is the “now” important to God?**

**The “now” is important to God because He is the God of the Now and the Not Yet.**

**I. God wants you to experience His promises now while we wait for the not yet.**

- a. Nehemiah was asking God to help him in the current mission. [Neh 1:11 NASB95] 11 "O Lord, I beseech You, may Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant and the prayer of Your servants who delight to revere Your name, and make Your servant successful today and grant him compassion before this man." Now I was the cupbearer to the king.
- b. Today is one of the days of your life. [Psa 23:6 NASB95] 6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
- c. This is the day! Some translations add “NOW” due to current construction of the Hebrew. [Psa 118:24-25 NASB95] 24 This is the day which the LORD has made; Let us

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rejoice and be glad in it. 25 O LORD, **do** save, we beseech You; O LORD, we beseech You, **do** send prosperity!

**II. God wants you to believe for His promises now while we wait for the not yet.**

- a. Although "Now" in this verse has no time reference, it does speak to the now (is the assurance) and the not yet (things not seen). [Heb 11:1 NASB95] 1 Now faith is the assurance of [things] hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
  - b. Faith is that pleases God is that He becomes a present rewarder to the present seeker. The literal rendering when looking at the tenses: "to the present seeker He becomes a present rewarder." [Heb 11:6 NASB95] 6 And without faith it is impossible to please [Him,] for he who comes to God must believe that He is and [that] He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.
  - c. Current obedience brings current provision. [Luk 18:30 NASB95] 30 who will not receive many times as much at this time and in the age to come, eternal life."
  - d. Believe for:
    - i. Current mission from God to be successful.
    - ii. Current provision from God to be received.
    - iii. Current answers from God to be revealed.
    - iv. Current healing from God to be experienced.
- **God wants to believe Him for His promises now while we wait for the not yet.**