

I Forced Myself, Therefore, and Offered

by F.B. Meyer

The sermon emphasizes the importance of patience in serving God, warning against the dangers of impatience and the consequences of ignoring the Divine order.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 13:12, Psalm 27:14, Psalm 37:7, Proverbs 3:5-6, Ecclesiastes 3:1, Isaiah 40:31, Lamentations 3:25-26, Romans 8:28, Galatians 6:9, James 1:4

Topics: "Patience", "Obedience to God"

Description

F.B. Meyer emphasizes the importance of waiting on God and the dangers of taking matters into our own hands, as illustrated by Saul's rash decision to offer a burnt offering without Samuel's presence. Saul's impatience and desire to control the situation led him to act outside his God-given role, demonstrating a lack of obedience and faith. Meyer warns that such impulsive actions, driven by expediency rather than divine guidance, can hinder our spiritual progress and service to God. He encourages believers to trust in God's timing, assuring them that He will come through at the right moment, even when it seems like time is running out. The sermon calls for patience and reliance on God's order in our lives.

Transcript

I forced myself, therefore, and offered

a burnt offering. Sam. xiii. 12.

THIS was wholly outside Saul's province. Samuel had engaged to arrive within the seven days: they had nearly expired, and still there were no signs of the prophet; and Saul, yielding to the promptings of his impetuous nature, took the matter into his own hand, and rashly assumed an office to which he had no right. He protested that he had been very unwilling to add the function of priest to that of king. But this was notoriously contrary to the truth. For some time he had chafed against Samuel's prerogative, and now sought to supersede the Divine order.

It seemed but a small act, and, to superficial judgment, not enough to warrant the loss of his kingdom; but it was symptomatic of a great moral deficiency. He had not learned to obey the commandment of the Lord: how could he rule? He could not control the hasty suggestions of his own nature, in favour of the deliberate movement of the Divine order: how could he be God's chosen agent? He acted on the showings of expediency, rather than of faith: how could he be a man after God's own heart? The restlessness and haste which characterize the present age must not be allowed to affect our service for

God; for thereby the progress of the Gospel will be hindered rather than helped.

We must learn to wait for God. He may not come till the allotted time has almost passed; but He will come. He waits for the exact moment in which He can best succour you. Not till patience has been exercised, but before it has given out. In the meanwhile, be sure that your safety is secured; He will see to it that the Philistines shall not come down to overwhelm you.

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