



The Perfect Time

I recently read an article on James *Edson* White (the son of one of the Adventist pioneers) on how he brought the gospel to African Americans in the South. Edson and a man named William O. Palmer had designed a paddle wheel steamboat called the *Morning Star*. It was going to be an education platform where Edson could teach former slaves about the gospel and teach them to read and write. But after the vessel failed a federal government steamship inspection and fines were issued, they were docked for months. During that time, however, God purposed for work to be done locally.

As a result of this divine delay—a *God's waiting room moment*—gospel literature was sold, and Bible studies ensued with a local pastor who came to love

the Adventist message. From there, growth happened; churches were planted and grew, and once Edson's work was done, *then* the fines for the *Morning Star* were dismissed, and they could set sail. There was great fruit that was bore for being delayed and waiting.

It can be tempting to give up, grumble, and gripe about the things we consider a delay in life. We can even despair, yet as God knows both the beginning and the end of every matter, surely we can trust in His perfect timing of things coming to fruition. There are things we wish would happen **now** in the maintenance department.

While Kyle currently works on one of our Angelwings ships, the Mooney, there are things he wishes he didn't



have to be delayed to fix. When it comes to tedious jobs, it's nice to have someone else do it or just be miraculously done with no effort. We've all been there. *Can't it just be over with?* Of course, it can; you have to do the work to get it over with and done. That's never the answer we want, but it's the truth, and the truth be told, the Mooney isn't one of Kyle's preferred planes to work on. *It's actually his least favorite.* But he can't just get this inspection over and done with. (*hurrah!!*) No, he is delayed.

There's a line that needs to be replaced that will take a great deal of effort, time, and frustration because of where it's located. There's a hydraulic hose that needs attention, and the fitting is cracked. This is naming only a few things.

Yet, in the grand scheme of things, like the delay Edson experienced where it was used as an evangelistic tool for the locals, God uses these sorts of delays in Kyle's work as an evangelistic tool while Kyle walks with God. God gives Kyle the resolve to walk forward in tenacity, dedication, and determination to leave the aircraft better than he found it and improve its overall condition. By doing this, God is working in Kyle in the same way to leave him better than He found him and improve his overall human condition.

We need to rely on God for our strength, patience, and endurance to get us to the end. Our human condition says, *"No! I quit, I give up! This is too hard! DON'T WANNA."* With God, we begin to live out His promise in Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

The time it takes Kyle to do what he needs to on the Mooney will be the perfect amount of time for him to be that much stronger in Christ and for his character to be that much more refined. In the end, that's an eternal blessing. *Maybe those delays aren't such a bad thing after all.* They just might be fitting us or someone we know for heaven. Thank you for your support and your prayers to see us through.

God bless!

Until Next Month,

Kyle, Rebecca, and Hadahsa Stevenson



**Your AWA Mission Family
stationed at AWA Headquarters
in Wilson, NC:
Kyle, Rebecca, & Hadahsa Stevenson**