



BIBLEWAY MINISTRIES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE—THE BIBLE WAY



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If you read your favorite news source over the last month, you may have seen headlines about the US immigration crisis, the retirement of Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy and the justices nominated to replace him, the election of Mexico's Marxist president, the Supreme Court's ruling on Jack Phillips and the Masterpiece Cake Shop, and the shooting at *The Capital Gazette* in Maryland which killed 5 people.

As a people looking for answers, we yearn for the silver bullet that will fix all the problems in our world and in our lives. Yet when we go to the Word of God, we find some important things to remember in times like these.

In 2 Chronicles 7:3, Israel acknowledged the goodness of God. In times of prosperity, we are sometimes fooled into believing our own goodness has sustained us.

God then instructed Solomon in 2 Chronicles 7:12–14 what His people should do in the hard times to come — when drought, infestation, and widespread disease ravaged the land. He said, “If my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their hand.”

The challenge before the people of God is to pray!

There were two farmers who prayed for rain. After a few days went by and nothing happened, one farmer went away disappointed. The other farmer went out and prepared his land to receive the rain. You probably have guessed which farmer had a good crop that year.



Maybe you're praying for rain, but nothing is happening. You aren't getting results from your job search. Your health isn't improving. The money you need isn't coming in, and you're growing impatient. You wonder, “Where is God when I need Him?” It may not be in God's timing to send the rain today or tomorrow — just prepare your field! Humble yourself before God today and seek His will in your life. The floodgates of Heaven will soon open! And by the

way, get out your best umbrella, unless you want to be drenched!

- *Dr. L.W. Edwards*



God always has a reason for leading us through seasons of waiting. He often uses these times to teach us truths about Himself, drill the truth deep within our hearts, equip us for service, add meat to our spiritual bones, give depth to our prayers, chip away at our rough edges, and use us to bring encouragement to others — but I’m getting ahead of myself. Let me begin by introducing you to Raghu, a friend of mine.

Raghu was born, raised, and educated in India. His Hindu family encouraged him to be devout in his religious practices, but as a young man he began to question the purpose of these rituals. God sovereignly introduced him to Moses, a Christian pastor who shared the gospel with him. Through Pastor Moses’s witness, Raghu accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior.

On the one hand, life became better for Raghu because of his new relationship with Jesus. On the other hand, life became harder. When his parents learned of his Christian faith, they gave him an ultimatum: Live at home and worship with us, or worship at your Christian church and find your own place to live.

At about this time, an opportunity opened for Raghu to attend Ohio’s Kent State University for his master’s degree. With a chance to attend church freely and advance in his career, Raghu seized the opportunity and left for the US.

Raghu arrived in the US with an F1 student visa in 2015. After completing his master’s degree in 2016, he received a 1-year OPT-EAD visa. The following year he received a 2-year visa, which allowed him to remain in the US until 2019. To stay in the country indefinitely, he would need either an H-1B visa or a job with an employer which could sponsor him after 2019. The clock had started ticking. Each day narrowed his window of opportunity by a sliver.

Hurry Up and Wait

Over the next 16 months, Raghu applied for countless jobs. He interviewed with countless employers, but was turned down. Again. . . . And again. . . . And again. Constant rejection can wear on the most optimistic of people, and Raghu was no exception. He described his experience this way, “At the time of my lowest, I would get sad. . . . I prayed, ‘God, why are You doing this?’ ‘Why don’t You like me?’” Have you ever felt this way?

The relationship with God which had influenced Raghu’s decision to come to the US played an important role in sustaining him through his disappointments. One of the verses which was a helpful reminder and ongoing source of inspiration was 2 Corinthians 5:7, “(For we walk by faith, not by sight:).” Raghu added, “I read Psalm 23 a lot. It made me more encouraged during my discouragement. Also seeing my friends on Sunday [at church] and listening to gospel preaching helped. I went to [volunteer at] Feed My Starving Children during times of discouragement.”

Raghu faithfully plowed ahead, and God did not disappoint. In May of 2018, he was contacted by a company about his application. After a formal interview process, the company made him an offer. Better yet, the company offered full H-1B sponsorship after six months of employment so he could remain in the US. . . . [>>> Keep Reading](#)



Contact Dr. Edwards if you would like to have him as your special guest.

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