



Grace Assembly Of God

## CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Exodus 23	Title:	“Not So Fast”
Author	<b>Tay Yi Hang</b>		
Summary of Chapter	God passes His laws concerning justice, Sabbath and festivals to the Israelites. He also promises to prepare the way ahead for the Israelites.		

Key Verse(s) NLT	How does it speak to me?
<i><sup>29</sup> But I will not drive them out in a single year, because the land would become desolate and the wild animals would multiply and threaten you. <sup>30</sup> I will drive them out a little at a time until your population has increased enough to take possession of the land.</i>	<p>From these verses we see that while God had promised the Israelites to send His angels to prepare the way for them, He also added that He would not do it immediately but according to His own timeline.</p> <p>I am someone who likes to do things quite last minute. Because of this, when there is something to be done, I will estimate how much time is needed to complete it and only allocate that amount of time for it and usually expect things to work out according to how I my timeline. Similarly, sometimes when I ask of God my requests, I expect it to be done according to my own timeline and schedule. When things don't go according my plans or take longer to come to fruition, these verses remind me that I should learn to submit to God's timeline and plan and that He has many good reasons for doing things the way He does. I have found that many times, God is preparing and maturing me to be ready for the situation.</p> <p>I have personally been praying many years for a complete healing for the eczema on my body. I have been suffering from eczema all my life across my entire body. It causes me itchiness, pain whenever my skin cracks and also low self-esteem. While the healing has not come yet, I can see how God has molded and shaped me and directed my path and transformed me to be more like Christ. He has helped me to overcome my issues of low self-esteem and has made me more compassionate, humble and patient. I now see that the time praying for healing and going through this problem is preparing me just like the Israelites to live a life of fulfillment in Christ.</p>

### APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

<b>Adult:</b>	Have you been waiting for the fulfillment of God's promises? How has He shaped your life through this process of waiting.
<b>Youth:</b>	Have there been times in your life where waiting gave a better outcome?
<b>Child:</b>	How do you feel when you don't get what you want immediately? Share on why God's timing is always perfect.

### PRAYER

<b>Praying Scripture:</b>	Dear heavenly Father, we thank You for your guidance and direction in our lives. We are grateful that You continue to shape and mold us into Christ's likeness in times of waiting. Help us to trust and submit to Your timing and Your plan.
<b>Thanksgiving Prayer:</b>	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
<b>Intercessory Prayer:</b>	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
<b>Salvation Prayer:</b>	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.