

Thought for the Day 14th October - John Reed

Read 2 Peter 3:1-12

Shoppers at a Target store in Las Vegas recently got a bit of a shock when they saw a woman roaming the aisles dressed in a wedding dress – with bridesmaids and a minister in tow! The unnamed woman was looking for her fiancée, who worked in the store. When she found him stocking shelves, she confronted him, demanding that he marry her there and then. Astonished bystanders filmed the confrontation, and shared it on social media. It shows her saying: “You put this ring on my finger two years ago and it’s time to do it or get out ... Yeah, we’re getting married right now or I’m leaving. I’m out. I’m done, like if you don’t marry me this second.” It’s not clear what happened next, because at the pleading of the embarrassed Target employee, the couple took their discussion outside where it was not caught on camera.¹

Have you ever waited a long time for someone to finally commit?

God does.

In this section of his letter, Peter reminds us that the end of all things – the day of judgment - is coming (verses 2, 7). He acknowledges that there are those who doubt it will ever happen (verses 3-4), but reminds us that our time frame is not the same as God’s – with him a day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as a day (verse 8). So what seems like a long time for us is not a long time in God’s grand scheme of things. God has not forgotten. He has not gone away. It will happen.

So why does God delay?

It’s because of his grace. He doesn’t want anyone to perish, but rather that all should come to repentance. It’s because he chooses to show patience towards us that he holds off as he does (verse 9).

But we shouldn’t confuse patience with inaction. He will act, the day of the Lord will come like a thief (verse 10). Therefore we should prepare ourselves, and commit, and live as people ready for the Lord to come (verses 11-13).

¹ <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/weird-news/woman-ambushes-fianc-work-wedding-22827232>