



What is the meaning of “Until” as a visionary force in our individual and corporate lives? The word speaks of future destiny. For many, it can be an obscure word filled with uncertainty and doubt, but for those who believe, it provides a pathway towards hope, redemption, restoration, and promise. Interestingly, this word is the same word used when God showed Abraham the promised land:

“And the LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: "Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants *forever*." Genesis 13:14-15

Forever is the Hebrew word עַד ‘ad, meaning “till or until.” It indeed implies a promise, a timeless entity unto which we can look. Ultimately, it is a bridge from where we are at present to the promises of God’s covenant purposes. Whether we cross that bridge or not is the question. Within the framework of its meaning lies an invitation we are all to weigh. Do we stay where we are and be satisfied with what is? Or do we press further towards something we have not yet seen, but sense and believe God has for us?

What do the Scriptures imply?

1) A FOREVER SIGNIFICANCE WITH COVENANTAL WEIGHT:

- a. And the LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: "Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants *forever*." Genesis 13:14-15

- 2) AN UNDERSTANDING OF GOD’S TIMING: Faithful perseverance until the timing of the Lord:
 - a. Jos 5:6 For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, **till** all the people who were men of war, who came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they did not obey the voice of the LORD
 - b. Lev 26:5 Our threshing shall last **till** the time of vintage, and the vintage shall last **till** the time of sowing; you shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely.
- 3) SEEING AND VALUING GOD’S REDEMPITIVE PURPOSE: Until implies a valuing of God’s redemptive purpose and plan
 - a. Lev 27:18, 21: But if he dedicates his field after the Jubilee, then the priest shall reckon to him the money due according to the years that remain **till** the Year of Jubilee, and it shall be deducted from your valuation. . . . but the field, when it is released in the Jubilee, shall be holy to the LORD, as a devoted field; it shall be the possession of the priest.
- 4) MOBILIZING INTO GOD’S COVENANT PROMISES: “Until” gives us the time and space to align and agree with God’s covenant plan and develop the willingness to stand and contend for it.
 - a. Isaiah 62:6-7. I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent, And give Him no rest **till** He establishes and **till** He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.
- 5) OUR ALIGNMENT AND EMPOWERMENT THROUGH HIM: Aligning with God’s covenant will release a manifestation of His power
 - a. Joshua 5:8-9 So it was, when they had finished circumcising all the people, that they stayed in their places in the camp **till they were healed**. Then the LORD said to Joshua, "This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." Therefore the name of the place is called Gilgal to this day.
 - i. Note as the Israelites circumcised themselves, the next encounter was Joshua meeting up with the Commander of the Army of the Lord, then the supernatural takeover of Jericho
 - b. Acts 1:4 “And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."
- 6) CROSSING OVER: God is waiting for us to cross over
 - a. Exodus 15:16-17 “**Till** Your people pass over, O Lord, **till** the people pass over Whom You have purchased. You will bring them in and plant them in the mountain of Your inheritance.”

“UNTIL” represents a choice we all have with the Lord and with one another in times of uncertainty. What it represents may mean one thing to one person, but another thing to someone else. As we focus on ekklesia and the end times, God is preparing His people for His return. Those who will “Watch and pray for you do not know when the time is,” Mark 13:33. Adopting the revelation of “until” is a **vital bridge** between what we are experiencing now and what God

desires us to see and give for the future. Such anticipation will help us avoid the “Days of Noah” that Jesus warns us of:

“And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.” Matthew 17:26-27

Should we take this to heart, we may very well hasten the day:

“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God.” 2 Peter 3:10-12

The invitation to journey forward is laid before us. The question is, what road will we take? “Until” is a gathering inviting us all take the road that will make a difference.

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.
—Robert Frost