

The Great Until

“I’m not looking for something to happen; I’m looking for someone to come. I’m not waiting for the abolition of war and poverty and urban renewal; I’m living in the Great Until.

“The next time someone asks you what time it is, tell him it’s ‘until.’ He that hath begun a good work will perform it *until* the day of Jesus Christ. I’m waiting *until* he that hindereth be taken out of the way. I’m judging nothing before the time *until* Jesus comes. I’m waiting *until* the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled, *until* the fullness of the Gentiles be come in, *until* he puts all things under his feet, *until* he subdues all things unto himself. I want to be sincere and without offense *until* the day of Jesus Christ. I want to hold fast to what I have *until* he comes. At the Lord’s Table I show forth his death *until* he comes. He said occupy *until* he comes. I’m waiting *until* all his enemies be made his footstool. I’m living in the Great *Until*.

“How will His enemies be made His footstool? By social action? No. When you’re up to your ears in crocodiles it’s not time to discuss how to drain the swamp. We’ve got crocodiles. When he comes again, he’s not coming to hold a summit conference with his enemies. He’s not coming to reconcile. He did that the first time. He’s coming to destroy and conquer and subdue. The day of reconciliation will be over and the day of retribution will begin.

I’m not looking for signs; I’ve seen plenty. I’m listening for a shout. When you hear some scoffer say there are no signs of his coming, you’ve just seen another sign.”

—Vance Havner