

# "LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



## LESSONS FROM MR PANTS

### #2 HOW MUCH LONGER?!

With that “hang-dog” look of acceptance that many dogs have developed and the ability to almost imprint the carpet with the words, “HOW MUCH LONGER?!” one is reminded of the plaintive back-seat cry of “Are we there yet?”; only with much more pathos.

I’m sure all ages have asked this question in its various forms many times. It is a question that carries with it a sense of “something beyond this moment”, a “looking forward” toward something, an anticipation of what is still to come. Sometimes we ask the question expecting time will eventually bring an anticipated something good and worthwhile, or it may be with fear as we wait for something bad which brings a different tone to the question.

When Jesus, God’s Son, walked the countryside of Israel, this was a constant question of the people, “Oh my God! When are you going to keep your promise; send a saviour to kick the Romans out of our country?” was still being asked. “When are you going to act and bring us “the good life”?” But God had been acting. They were still a nation. Because his actions were not what they thought they should be they didn’t recognise his love was still watching over them.

Maybe as a nation, as a community, and as individuals we should look at ourselves and ask “Are we any more understanding and thankful?”

Today society seems to be constantly screaming “Oh My God!”. Are these words a cry for help, an exclamation of worship or simply words rattling around like pebbles in an empty bucket? Only those who cry them (and God) know what they mean and in the interest of “saving time” it has been shortened to OMG. If someone treated our name with such indifference or shortened it to simply single letters, would we listen intently or choose to ignore the caller?

Fortunately, God is not that small-minded. To all who honestly and believingly call “Oh God, help me.....” he still says “Call to me when trouble comes; I will save you, and you will praise me.” **(Psalm 50:15)** His love never ends.

He has always promised to answer in the way and at the time he knows is best for us

At times he may have answered, but were we too self-absorbed to recognise it?

There is nothing wrong with asking “God, how long?” But perhaps we also need to be more prepared to say, “But in your time and your way will be fine”.

May god give us all a week where we open our eyes, hearts and minds to see him in action.  
Kevin.

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# Next week we will see what Mr Pant's final thoughts are about acceptance and dry blowers.