

**The Word For The Weak**  
 — Weekly Newsletter —  
 By R. C. Theophilus  
*“For when I am weak, then I am strong.”*  
**2 Corinthians 12:7-10**

**NL-2024-01 (PDF link)**

**FOR THE WEEK OF:** 30 December 2023 - 6 January — In The Acceptable Year of **Christ Jesus Our King** 2024 A.D.

**THE WORD IS:** “LATE”

**SAYING THESE THINGS:**

Last night I was asking the **Lord** for this week’s Word. I actually remembered to do so even before I was ready to sleep. But the **Lord** delayed revealing His Word until this morning.

We were in the TV room, when at about 6AM I remembered that I had prayed for **His** word, but that I had not heard **His** answer. So I asked again, and **He** replied that **He** would reveal his **Word no later** than 7AM.

It is now 7:06 AM and I am at my desktop computer. At about 6:68 I looked up at the clock from the computer screen and was startled at the time, and that I had not yet heard **His Word** yet. I then remarked in sort of a humorous fashion that it was getting “late”.

Then I began to wonder, and asked the **Lord** if the word was indeed “late”.

**He** replied “yes”, the Word is “LATE”.

Ok. So now, let’s see what Jesus is saying with His word of LATE.

Here are some phrases that I have heard over the years that include the word “late”:

- 1) one can be a “**late**-comer”.
- 2) one can be “**late**” to the party.
- 3) one can be “**late**”, as in dead, i.e. “The **Late**, Great, Planet Earth” (*by Hal Lindsay*)
- 4) “better **late** than never”
- 5) “The day is far spent, and the hour is **late**”

I’m sure there are more, but one gets the idea.

But now, let’s see if “late” is in Scripture.

According to the Olive Tree Bible NKJV, “late” occurs ten times.

Here is the complete list (I recommend the reader look up and see the verses in their more complete context):

**Exodus 9:32**

32 But the wheat and the spelt were not struck, for they are **late** crops.

**2 Samuel 21:10**

10 Now Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the rock, from the beginning of harvest until the **late** rains poured on them from heaven. And she did not allow the birds of the air to rest on them by day nor the beasts of the field by night.

**Job 30:3**

3 They are gaunt from want and famine,  
Fleeing **late** to the wilderness, desolate and waste, (*see larger context*)

**Psalms 127:2**

2 It is vain for you to rise up early,  
To sit up **late**,  
To eat the bread of sorrows;  
For so He gives His beloved sleep.

**Amos 7:1**

1 Thus the Lord GOD showed me: Behold, He formed locust swarms at the beginning of the **late** crop; indeed it was the **late** crop after the king's mowings.

**Matthew 14:15**

15 When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already **late**. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food."

**Mark 6:35**

35 When the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, "This is a deserted place, and already the hour is **late**."

**Mark 11:11**

11 And Jesus went into Jerusalem and into the temple. So when He had looked around at all things, as the hour was already late, He went out to Bethany with the twelve.

**Jude 1:12**

12 These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; **late** autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots;

**Revelation 6:13**

13 And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its **late** figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.

"Late" according to Roget's Thesaurus II:

*Not being on time:*

*behindhand, belated, overdue, tardy.*

*See: time*

*Having been such previously:*

*erstwhile, former, old, once, onetime, past, previous, quondam, sometime, whilom.*

*See: precede*

*No longer alive:*

*asleep, dead, deceased, defunct, departed, extinct, gone, lifeless.*

*Idioms: at rest, pushing up daisies.*

When I was in grammar school, I learned that the english language has many features. One of these is “root” words. For instance, the root word of “singularity” is singular.

So now, I am wondering if the word “late” is a root word for any other words. “Latent” and “Latency” both come to mind.

In my Boiler Operator’s class, the Instructor taught about a concept he called “the latent heat of enthalpy”. I will leave the discovery of the meaning of this and other related terms to the reader.

**P. S.** As an avid Football Fan, I am also reminded of the penalty “delay of game”, which is what happens when the ball is snapped after the play clock runs out. In this case, the quarterback hikes the football too **late** to avoid the penalty. The operative Word used to avoid being **late**, is to be **punctual**. When one is punctual, one is being faithful to their word to be someplace or do something at a time agreed upon with another party.

May our Father grant us His Light to Know, Live, and Love His **Word**.

Amen.

THE WORD FOR THE WEAK NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON THE SIXTH DAY OF THE WEEK

— ‘GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU’ —