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**Just the Right Timing**

**By Thomas Yoon**

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How does the engine know when to spray fuel, let in air, compress the air, and exhaust the spent combustion product?

Obviously, there must be a certain timing for these processes to follow in order for the diesel engine to work.

If the fuel were to be injected when the air inside the cylinders is not sufficiently compressed, it will not ignite. Furthermore, if the timing is not correct, some of the unburned fuel may find their way out through the exhaust and become lost.

Inefficient combustion takes place and power will be lost.

The many components of a diesel engine must work together properly, doing their function at the correct sequence all the time. If any component does not function as designed, the engine will perform poorly or even stop completely.

The main moving components of a diesel engine, i.e. the piston, connecting rod, crankshaft, fuel pump, exhaust valves and inlet valves are connected together through carefully designed gearing, cams, push rods, rocker arms, and sometimes drive chains.

Adjusting the timing of the various processes of a diesel combustion cycle involves adjustments to these linkages.

In small diesel engines, very little adjustments can be done. However in large diesel engines, each of these components can be adjusted for maximum efficiency.

## Just the Right Timing

The cams of the camshaft driving the fuel pump can be adjusted to advance or delay the fuel injection to the engine cylinder. The cams driving the push rods for the inlet and exhaust valves can also be adjusted.

In doing all these adjustments, care must be taken to consider the positions of the piston relative to the process to be adjusted.

The flywheel at the end of the crankshaft is usually marked as a reference to show the piston at Top Dead Center. Each piston will have its marking on the flywheel. If the engine has 6 cylinders,

then 6 markings for Top Dead Center will be marked.

From the markings on the flywheel a person can refer to it for adjustments on the fuel pump cams, and cylinder valve cams.

Some diesel engines do not have inlet and exhaust valves. Perhaps we will look at 2–stroke and 4–stroke diesel engine next...

Well folks, start your engines.

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Many years of working experience in Marine, Facilities, Construction has given the author material for writing e–books and articles related to engineering, and management.

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### **Are You a Microwave or Crock Pot?**

**By Kimberly Chastain**

In our fast paced society we often want everything done quickly or your boss wants it done yesterday. In your spiritual life are you a Microwave or Crock Pot? I think often we want God to answer our prayers in Microwave fashion. I prayed a specific request today and I want it answered today. If our prayers are not answered quickly, we often wonder, "What is God doing?" We also decide to go it on our own and not wait for God's direction. Often it is difficult to wait on God's timing.

## Just the Right Timing

When we are in Crock pot mode we pray and rest in the knowledge that God's timing is best. Often, God may have to let several things simmer in our life before he answers our prayer. Many times in my life I have seen God's handiwork after the situation is over. If God had answered my prayer the way I wanted him to, it would not have gone well at all. God knows what is best for us and when it is best for something to happen.

I look at Scripture and see God works in Microwave and Crock Pot mode. When Daniel was in the lion's den God worked immediately to shut the mouths of the lions. I have to admit if I was Daniel I would want to know why God didn't act before I got thrown in the lion's den. Daniel being thrown in the lion's den was used to reflect God's glory and power. God also works in Crock Pot mode. Do you remember Joshua and the battle of Jericho? The people of Israel were marching around a wall for 7 days. Don't you imagine they asked God, "Why?" During that time Rahab was getting her family ready to leave Jericho. Could it be that God took seven days of marching around Jericho, to save one woman and her family? Could it be that God took that time for one woman who was faithful to God in spite of her lifestyle, in spite of her whole community being against God to show his glory? Most of the Israelites did not know about Rahab, but God did. In God's perfect timing he rescued the Israelites and Rahab, not in the way the Israelites would have wanted. God gave them victory in the battle in Crock pot mode.

So, I ask you are you in Microwave mode or Crock Pot mode in your spiritual life? Please remember God is always in control even when it feels everything is out of control. Trust God's timing and know he only wants what is best for you.

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Kimberly M. Chastain, MS, LMFT is the Christian Working Mom Coach and a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who specializes in helping Christian women make the most of their lives. She is the author of the on-line course, "I Can't Say No" and Pearls of Encouragement for Christian Working Moms, a free e-book. If you suffer from "I Can't Say `No" Syndrome, visit Kimberly's site today for the details on an exciting email course that's sure to set you free!

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