

Quarter one: The Book of Psalms

Lesson 13—Wait on the Lord

Sunday: The Call of Waiting

March 24, 2024

- **Last Week:** “Worship that Never Ends”
 - Individual & corporate worship & praise to God & as a witness to others

- **This Week:** “Wait on the Lord”
 - **Review of Quarter**
 - Lament Psalms – individual & community cries for help
 - Penitential Psalms – prayers for repentance, forgiveness, cleansing & restoration
 - Thanksgiving Psalms – individual & community songs of praise
 - For who God is: our
 - Creator
 - Redeemer / Savior
 - Judge
 - Soon coming King
 - Sanctuary Psalms
 - Zion Psalms
 - Historical Psalms
 - Messianic Psalms – Christ in the Psalms
 - Wisdom Psalms
 - Faith & Trust Psalms
 - Pilgrim Psalms

 - **Waiting on the Lord**
 - We don’t wait in idleness
 - We don’t wait in desperation
 - We don’t wait in fear & trepidation

 - We wait in hope – eager expectation of how He will fulfill His promises
 - We wait with full faith & trust & dependence on our God
 - Remembrance of past fulfillment of promises & confident expectation of future fulfillment
 - We wait in peace & full assurance of our salvation
 - We wait in activity: in witness, outreach & evangelism, while there is time

Memory Text: “Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord!” (Ps 27:14, NKJV)

The week in brief:

- 1. **Sunday:** The Call of Waiting (Jill)
 - Multiple Psalms – faithfulness & perseverance in waiting on God, both here today, and for His second coming
- 2. **Monday:** Peace of a Weaned Child (James)

- Ps 131 – importance of resting & trusting in Jesus, like a child & to use that experience to strengthen the church
- 3. **Tuesday:** Bringing in the Sheaves (John D)
 - Ps 126 – remembering what God has done for us & looking forward to the harvest of souls & Jesus’ return
- 4. **Wednesday:** Waiting in God’s Sabbath Rest (Daniel)
 - Ps 92 – the Sabbath as memorial of Creation & Redemption (& holiness)
- 5. **Thursday:** Joy Comes in the Morning (SQ)
 - Multiple Psalms – joy in resurrection morning & second coming of Christ

Sunday: The Call of Waiting

Ps 27:14; Ps 37:7, 9, 34; Ps 39:7; Ps 40:1; Ps 69:6; Gal 5:5; Rom 8:18 – 25; Ps 63:1; Acts 1:4 - 8

- The difficulty of waiting: from lesson – “Perhaps one of the greatest stresses in life is the stress of waiting.”
 - Stats on waiting – people wait, on average -
 - 15 minutes for a table at a restaurant
 - 20 minutes a day for the bus or train
 - 32 minutes at the doctor’s office
 - 28 minutes in security lines when traveling
 - 13 hours annually on hold for customer service
 - 38 hours annually waiting in traffic for an average commuter
 - 50 hours annually waiting in traffic in larger cities
 - Waiting for a lifetime
 - 6 months of your life spent waiting in line for something
 - 43 days on hold with automated customer service
 - 27 days waiting at the bus platform
 - 9 years of the average person’s life on a cell phone
 - Difficulty of waiting
 - Impatient – in a hurry
 - Want answers
 - We wait
 - For the result of the biopsy
 - For the nurse’s voice after surgery
 - For the door to open for the job, home, ministry
 - For the finances for school, loan, or retirement
 - For God to provide a friend, a child, a soul mate
 - **Why do we wait?** We wait -
 - Because we have no choice
 - Because we have no answer
 - Because we have no way out
 - Because we are unable to fix it, or remedy it, or make it better
 - Because we are incapable of changing our circumstances

Waiting from the Psalms: “The Call of Waiting” (How do we wait?)

- **1. In eager expectation of what He will accomplish**
 - Ps 27:14 – “**Wait** on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!”
 - Wait = Hebrew means “wait in eager expectation & hope”
 - Ps 40:1 – “I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry.”
 - We wait, knowing He is hearing us
 - Ps 39:7 – “And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You.”
 - We wait, trusting He will answer in His time and way
 - Rom 5:3 – 5 – “And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces **perseverance**; and perseverance, **character**; and character, **hope**. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.” (KJV – hope maketh not ashamed)
 - Perseverance = Gk – from two words – “under” & “remain/endure” = properly, remaining under, or enduring under
 - Character = Gk – “the process or result of trial, approved character, a proof of genuineness through testing”
 - Hope = Gk = eager expectation, trust, confidence
 - Waiting goes against the natural heart
 - We want to get answers, hurry up, get out of the trial
 - Instead, we can be thankful because the trial – the waiting time – is producing something in us
 - Waiting time – trials – produce perseverance & character, hope & love
- **2. In surrender & submission to His will**
 - Ps 40:8 – “I delight to do Your will, oh my God, and Your law is within my heart.”
 - Delight = Heb, “desire, to be pleased with”
 - Only can submit/surrender when you know and love someone
 - Seek to “know God” through first-hand experience
 - Ps 37:7 – “Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.”
 - We wait in surrender & submission, even if it seems like the enemy is winning
 - We don’t worry about others
 - Don’t compare amongst ourselves
 - Don’t look at the supposed prosperity of the wicked
- **3. In active service – not in idleness or discouragement**
 - Luke 19:13 – nobleman went into far country - Occupy until I come – “Do business till I come”
 - Only used one time in Greek – “occupy” = “to busy oneself, transact business, trade”
 - Gal 6:9, NLT – “So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up.”

- Practically speaking, we don't
 - Sit at home, and cry in fear of the biopsy result
 - Mope in self-pity for a child, or a spouse
 - Instead, we
 - Seek out others
 - Serve with joy
 - Do the next thing, whatever is right in front of us
 - *Elisabeth Elliott – after death of husband, next thing
- **4. In hope of the second coming of Christ & resurrection**
 - Rom 8:18 – 20, 22, 23 – “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. (19) For the earnest expectation (intense longing) of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God (future resurrection of the believers). (20) For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope (refers to the cursing of the earth after Adam’s fall)... (22) For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. (turmoil in nature like earthquakes, hurricanes, famines & other natural disasters). (23) Not only that, but we also who have (the believers, including the apostles) the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the **redemption of our body**. (the final resurrection).”
 - 1 Cor 2:9 – “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither has entered into the heart of man the things that God has prepared for those who love Him.”
- **5. Until He becomes our everything**
 - Ps 63:1 – “O God, You are my God; early will I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water.”
 - We develop a thirst for God’s presence – until nothing else matters, but Him
- **How do we wait on God? We wait**
 - 1. In eager expectation of what He will accomplish
 - 2. In surrender and submission to His will
 - 3. In active service – not in idleness or discouragement
 - 4. In hope of the second coming of Christ & resurrection
 - 5. Until He becomes our everything