

Day 16 – January 24, 2023 - Waiting on God

“I think Christians fail so often to get answers to their prayers because they do not wait long enough on God. They just drop down and say a few words, and then jump up and forget it and expect God to answer them. Such praying always reminds me of the small boy ringing his neighbor's door-bell, and then running away as fast as he can go.” - E.M. Bounds

Topic Scripture: (NLT) - Deuteronomy 8:6-18 - *“So obey the commands of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and fearing him. For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land of flowing streams and pools of water, with fountains and springs that gush out in the valleys and hills. It is a land of wheat and barley; of grapevines, fig trees, and pomegranates; of olive oil and honey. It is a land where food is plentiful and nothing is lacking. It is a land where iron is as common as stone, and copper is abundant in the hills. When you have eaten your fill, be sure to praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. “But that is the time to be careful! Beware that in your plenty you do not forget the LORD your God and disobey his commands, regulations, and decrees that I am giving you today. For when you have become full and prosperous and have built fine homes to live in, and when your flocks and herds have become very large and your silver and gold have multiplied along with everything else, be careful! Do not become proud at that time and forget the LORD your God, who rescued you from slavery in the land of Egypt. Do not forget that he led you through the great and terrifying wilderness with its poisonous snakes and scorpions, where it was so hot and dry. He gave you water from the rock! He fed you with manna in the wilderness, a food unknown to your ancestors. He did this to humble you and test you for your own good. He did all this so you would never say to yourself, ‘I have achieved this wealth with my own strength and energy.’ Remember the LORD your God. He is the one who gives you power to be successful, in order to fulfill the covenant he confirmed to your ancestors with an oath.”*

As children of God we often find it hard to wait on God to answer our prayers. For some reason we think God needs our help in answering our prayers so we might tend to do things our own way instead of waiting on God. God’s word tells us that His ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts. So why is it hard for us to wait on God? Maybe it is because of our impatience, immaturity, or lack of trust that will cause us to jump ahead of God instead of waiting and listening for His voice. Do we really trust God to answer us when we call on Him? Are you willing to wait on the Lord to answer all your prayers, even if it takes longer than expected?

Two Ways to Wait - All of us will wait either we will wait (1) passively or we will wait (2) expectantly. A passive person hopes something good will happen and is willing to sit and wait to see if it does. After some time, he gives up, saying, "That's it! I've waited and waited and nothing's happened." Do this sound familiar? A passive person has a lot of wishbone, but not much backbone to wait!

The expectant person, is hopeful, believing the answer is just around the corner, it's about to happen any time. His belief is not a passive thing. His heart is full of hope, expecting his problem to be solved at any moment. He wakes up every morning in expectance that he will find his answer. He may wait and wait, but suddenly what he's been waiting for happens.

Additional Scripture: (KJV)

Psalms 75:6-7 – *“For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.*

Isaiah 40-31 – *“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”*

Prayer

Father show me Your ways, Lord God, and teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me. You are the God of my salvation. I wait before You with expectant hope all-the-day long. Let integrity and uprightness preserve me as I wait on You. Father, God, help me to remember to wait on You at all times and to be of good courage, for I know that as I do these things, You will strengthen my heart. Thank You, Father, for this precious promise from Your word. In Jesus name, Amen.