

The Waiting Room

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

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God's waiting room is the time from which we start our prayer up to the time when we receive God's tangible answer. God will surely answer our prayers beyond our expectations (Jer. 33:3 & Matt. 7:7), whether it may be a yes, no, or wait. But when God makes us sit in the waiting room, we can be assured that His grace is at work as we look forward to His answer.

1. David, King of Israel

- In Psalm 40:1, David cried patiently to the Lord and the Lord heard him. The Lord knows our cries of pain while waiting for the answer.
- Waiting for the Lord is not idleness, nor is it carelessness, nor complacency; it is a divine activity.
- Be angry but do not sin. Being angry leads to regrettable decisions so we need to calm down and ask for the Holy Spirit for guidance.

2. Abraham, Father of Many Nations

- God promised him great blessings yet he waited for many years for fulfillment of these promises, walking in obedience and trust in God.
- It took 25 years for Abraham to wait on God's promises, for God's time is different from ours (2 Pt. 3:8), and His time is our standard of measure in waiting.

3. Habakkuk, the Prophet

- Habakkuk was getting impatient for God's response to the injustice inflicted upon His chosen people. But God told him to be patient as His answers will surely come and will bring justice (Hab. 2:1-3)
- God wants us to wait for His perfect response when we pray for injustices of corruption, inequity and poverty; God hates sin and punishes the sinners.

- Habakkuk turned complaints to praise (Hab. 3).

4. Daniel, the Visionary

- Daniel waited twenty-one days for his prayers to be answered because it was opposed by the Prince of Persia (Dan. 10:11-14). Our prayers are sometimes hindered by God's enemy.

5. Joseph, the Dreamer

- The dreams of Joseph were fulfilled later in his life; in those times of waiting, God was always with him (Gen. 39). We, therefore, continue our spiritual journey while waiting for His answer as He is always with us.

Jesus taught about the importance of delay in order to refine our lives. Moreover, Other reasons for delays are meant to:

1. trust God that He will fulfill His promise
2. fulfill His words according to His time
3. teach believers to believe
4. expose personal shortcomings of impatience
5. teach us the spirit faith & patience in waiting
6. force believers to wait in God with rejoicing spirit
7. wait for our attitudes to change
8. show His delay has a specific purpose

Conclusion. God wants us to be in our waiting room to place our trust and confidence in Him, to change our complaints to praise knowing that whatever answers He might give will be for our own salvation.

Reflection: How do you wait for the Lord to give His answers to your prayers?

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