

This teaching by
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Waiting Upon the Lord

- The word wait means to stay where one is or delay until a particular time or event.
- Waiting upon the Lord means to stay where we are or to delay until God's timing.
- Psalm 130:5- "I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, And in His word I do hope."
- If we look at those whom the Lord used or uses greatly for His purpose, we will see one thing in common in the lives of these people, they are people who wait on Him.

Why Waiting Upon the Lord- *Abraham*

- That He might be glorified.
- God promised to Abraham.
- Genesis 15:1-5: *After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward." ² But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!" ⁴ And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." ⁵ Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."*

- Abraham waited for 25 years.
- Sarah and Abraham tried to help God, the result was Ishmael.
- Why 25 years?
- Genesis 18:1- 14- *Then the LORD appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. ² So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, ³ and said, "My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant. ⁴ Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ And I will bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh your hearts. After that you may pass by, inasmuch as you have come to your servant." They said, "Do as you have said."*

- *⁶ So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead it and make cakes.” ⁷ And Abraham ran to the herd, took a tender and good calf, gave it to a young man, and he hastened to prepare it. ⁸ So he took butter and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate. ⁹ Then they said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” So he said, “Here, in the tent.” ¹⁰ And He said, “I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son.” (Sarah was listening in the tent door which was behind him.)*

- *¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; and Sarah had passed the age of childbearing. ¹² Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, “After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?” ¹³ And the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, saying, ‘Shall I surely bear a child, since I am old?’ ¹⁴ Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.”*
- Why 25 years?
- Sarah would have to pass a child bearing age.

Isaac Is Born- The Testimony

- Genesis 21: 1-7: And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken. ² For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. ³ And Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him—whom Sarah bore to him—Isaac. ⁴ Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵ Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶ And Sarah said, “God has made me laugh, *and* all who hear will laugh with me.” ⁷ She also said, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? For I have borne *him* a son in his old age.”
- Why 25 Years?

The Testimony- For our learning and encouragement

- Hebrews 6:13-15: ¹³ *For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, ¹⁴ saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” ¹⁵ And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.*

Why Waiting Upon the Lord- *Moses*

- If we are not ready or willing to wait upon the Lord, we cannot learn His ways. To learn the ways of the Lord, we must wait on Him.
- Moses tried to fight for his brethren by killing an Egyptian, and that got him into trouble that he had to flee to Midian (Exodus chapter 2).
- Moses waited for 40 years: Acts 7:30- *“And when forty years had passed, an Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire in a bush, in the wilderness of Mount Sinai”*
- Question: Why did Moses had to wait for 40 years?
- Answer: Because he couldn't get ready in 39 years.

Testimony about Moses

- It was recorded in Number 12:3 that Moses was the meekest man. Numbers 12:3- *Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.*
- How come he was the meekest man?
- Because He has been broken by the Lord, and he has learnt the way of the Lord.
- The place of waiting is a place of training and equipping.

Why Waiting Upon the Lord- *David*

- David was anointed many years before he actually became a king. He had to wait for years.
- How Long does He have to wait, and who decides? **God**
- When God's calling is upon our lives, or we have a God given vision, our ability to wait upon Him determines what the outcome will be.
- David's testimony: Psalm 40:1-3 *"I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me, And heard my cry. He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock, And established my steps. He has put a new song in my mouth-Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, And will trust in the LORD."*
- When we wait upon the Lord, He orders and establishes our steps.

Why Waiting Upon the Lord- *Joseph, Jesus and the Disciples*

- Joseph had a dream (Genesis chapter 37).
- Jesus our perfect example had to wait for an appointed time.
- The Disciple had to wait for an appointed time. They had to wait till particular event occurs.
- Saul couldn't wait for Samuel, and that led him into trouble (1 Samuel 13:8-4)
- The children of Israel couldn't wait for Moses and they got into trouble (Exodus 32).
- 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Waiting Upon the Lord

- As human we do not like to wait. We always want to get into action, always wanting to do something.
- Waiting requires patient and endurance. We cannot wait upon the Lord if we are not patient.
- We can save a lot of time waiting on God and the only thing harder than waiting on God is wishing that you had.
- We save ourselves from heartache and unnecessary pain and stress if we wait on God.
- It is important for us to wait upon the Lord if He will use us for His purpose.

Waiting Upon the Lord

- It is not about how fast we run, it is about what direction we are running.
- No matter how fast we run in wrong a direction, we will never get to our destination.
- A man who cannot wait upon the Lord, cannot stand before men.
- Waiting is essential for our growth and walk with the Lord.
- Trying to do the Lord's work in your strength is the most confusing, exhausting, and tedious of all work.

Waiting Upon the Lord

- Waiting on God requires the willingness to bear uncertainty, to carry within oneself the unanswered question, lifting the heart to God about it whenever it intrudes upon one's thought.
- Wait upon the Lord in His word.
- Wait upon the Lord in prayers.
- Wait upon the Lord daily.
- When we wait, the Lord gives direction.
- Waiting brings God favour upon you.
- Waiting upon the Lord doesn't mean you are weak, the opposite is true.

Waiting Upon the Lord

- Waiting makes us dependent on God, and that is the best place to be.
- Waiting brings renewal and refreshing.
- Waiting upon the Lord is not a time wasted, it is a time invested.
- Waiting requires trusting. You cannot wait for someone you do not trust. Do you trust the Lord? Wait for Him.
- Never give up waiting on God.
- When we wait, He goes ahead of us.

Waiting Upon the Lord

- Wait on God Continually. Hosea 12:6- *So you, by the help of your God, return; Observe mercy and justice, And wait on your God continually.*
- Isaiah 49:23- ... *Then you will know that I am the LORD, For they shall not be ashamed who wait for Me.”*
- Isaiah 40:31- *But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.*