



WHEN GOD SAYS TO WAIT

Isaiah 64:4 KJV

For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.

“Good things come to those who wait” is an oft repeated cliché we tell people to encourage them to be patient. While there’s overall truth in the statement, the “wait” part is the misunderstood area of this equation, “If I’m going to get the good things anyways, why should I have to wait? God is aware of our hopes and dreams, He knows our desires better than we do, after all, He gave them to us. But that doesn’t mean we’re ready to take the reigns of the things we yearn for just yet. In fact, many of the things we think we want turn out to be disappointments after the fact, and we seek a do-over, and want to reset the desire clock for the next round of absolutely-must-have.

God

has a better plan for us, but it requires us to grow first, before we are ready for the blessings he gives us. He loves nothing more than to fulfill our desires and see us happy, but God is to be the center of our life and not the blessing. By seeking God first, and allowing him to bestow upon us the things that fit His will for our life, on His timing, we place ourselves in a position of receiving maximum enjoyment out of the life God has given us. But it's not always easy.

TRUSTING GOD WHEN HE ASKS US TO WAIT

Psalm 130:5-6 KJV

[5] I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope. [6] My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning.

Why Does God Ask Us to Wait?

1. He is revealing himself to us and His Character.
2. He is actively preparing me (and others) and imparting wisdom.
3. To purify our motives (trust him)
4. He is getting the situation ready including the circumstances we are not aware of in order to protect us from making mistakes.
5. We experience greater intimacy.

Why Don't We Wait?

1. Pride.
2. Selfishness.
3. Desire to control.
4. Waiting appears to be weakness.
5. Lack of trust.

What is My Responsibility in Waiting?

1. Commit myself and my circumstances to God.
2. Trust God.
3. To wait for God to act.

REQUIREMENTS FOR WAITING ON GOD

1. **FAITH** - Trust God and the ways of God even though you may not understand. He is preparing you.

Habakkuk 2:3 KJV

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

2. **PATIENCE** - Waiting upon the Lord in peace by faith.

Psalms 37:7-8 KJV

[7] Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. [8] Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

3. **COURAGE** - Base your courage on your faith. As your faith grows, so should your courage, but not just in facing adversity. Also grow your courage to wait on the Lord in the face of pressure to act.

Psalms 27:14 KJV

[14] Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

4. **DETERMINATION** - You have to determine to wait, especially under pressure.

2 Timothy 4:7 KJV

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

5. **STRENGTH** - A fortitude and resilience to stay the course through faith regardless of the uneasiness of the wait.

Isaiah 40:31 KJV

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.

6. **ENDURANCE** - Not only the stamina of trials and tribulation, but a perseverance through the fog of uncertainty as we wait on the Lord through faith.

1 Corinthians 13:7 KJV

Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

WAITING ON GOD'S TIMING

Ecclesiastes 3:11 KJV

[11] He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

What is Meant by Working on Our Behalf?

1. God gets personally involved and has our best interests in mind.
2. Our willingness to wait shows our value we placed on God.

What Can We Expect?

1. Express his goodness towards us
2. We receive answers to our prayers
3. Win over struggles in life
4. We experience physical strength and energy
5. Peace of God in our circumstances.

What are Our Options When God Asks Us to Wait?

1. Stop listening to God and do it my way.
2. Quit and walk away, miss out.
3. Wait and watch God work on my behalf.

What are the Consequences of Not Waiting on God?

1. Step out of God's will
2. Delay his planned blessing for us
3. We bring pain and suffering upon us
4. Cause others heartache and suffering
5. Cost us financially, relationships and opportunities.
6. Cause confusion in our life.

Obey God, leave all the consequences to him and act on God's timing. Two important principles we should follow throughout our lives. God's timing isn't good, it's perfect. He knows all the details ahead of time and waits for the moment that will have the most impact and benefit in our life.

God doesn't always speak loudly to us, sometimes it's a soft whisper but at the right moment. We err by putting our own vision and desires in front of God. He is consistent in his word and doesn't make exceptions to what he's already said.

Isaiah 30:18 KJV

And therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him.

Psalms 37:34 KJV

Wait on the Lord, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

