

## *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Sermon

6.12.2022

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Patience, The Will to Wait

### **Psalm 37: 1 – 7**

Waiting on the Lord is one of the hardest things that we must learn to do in our Christian life. This is because it is in our nature to try and accomplish things and take control of every situation by our own strength. Too often, we get ahead of God and try to accomplish things that are not in our best interest, things that we are not ready for. For this reason, it is incredibly hard to be still and wait for the Lord to provide. We must learn, as Christians, that we must not move forward until God provides the way. In order for this to happen, we must prepare our heart and be ready to serve and expect God to provide. As we do this the Holy Spirit will give unto us the sense of knowing that God has always been at work, so that when his time is right everything will be in place for us to move forward in our Christian life.

**Psalm 27: 14,....**wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart, wait, I say wait on the Lord....

Our faith in God is strengthened as we patiently endure and wait for the Lord to work in all circumstances of our life. Our faith is often tested when we are called upon to endure long periods of trials and tribulations, so that we might learn to submit to prayer and meditation in Gods word, looking with thanksgiving for the Lord to fulfill his promises unto us.

We must have confidence in knowing that his promises will be fulfilled if we put our complete trust in God.

**Proverbs 3: 5 – 6,....**trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding....in all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths....

As we abide in Christ, he will strengthen our heart. As we abide in his love, his spirit will strengthen our soul.

**2 Corinthians 12: 9,....**my grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weaknesses....

As we trust in God and become obedient to his word, we will then be enabled to wait upon the Lord.

**Psalms 37: 1- 7,....**fret not thyself because of evil doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity....trust in the Lord, and do good....delight thyself in the Lord, and he shall give the desires of thine heart....commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in him....rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him....

As we look at this passage of scripture, we are encouraged not to fret concerning the wickedness of those around us in the world. If we will allow, Satan will use those around us to discourage our trust and faith in the Lord. We are given four promises in this passage of scripture that will help us to find the patience to wait upon the Lord as he gives unto us the strength to endure those times of worldly persecution.

The first promise is to trust in the Lord and do good.

Trusting in God, putting our faith in the word of God, is the unlimited boundary of his wisdom, for God is the beginning and the end of all wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. Trusting in the Lord will discredit all worldly fear and doubt, because it will lead us to replace our self-confidence and desires with an unwavering commitment to God.

**Jerimiah 17: 7,....**blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is....

Trusting in the Lord simply means that we believe him in all things. We believe in his word, we trust in his promises, we do not allow our worldly emotions or feelings to control our lives, we have peace of mind knowing that God is in complete control. As we accept all that God has revealed unto us through his word, it gives unto us the certainty of the existence of things which we cannot see. This brings the level of our trust in him to an eternal hope that is given unto us by God the Father himself.

The second promise is to delight thyself also in the Lord.

Directing our focus on the Lord encourages our soul and excites our faith in him. This then expands into a joy that is unspeakable and full of glory.

**1 Peter 1: 8,....**ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory....

Often time, this comes through lessons of obedience learned by the things in which we suffer. Christ himself was the example of he who endured the shame and suffering of the cross, which was the joy that was set before him, because it was the will of the one that sent him, and this should be our daily desire as well.

**Psalm 1: 1 – 2,....**blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly....but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in his law he doth meditate day and night....

Our delight comes through Gods word. It outlines his divine purpose and plan for all mankind. The believer who reads, meditates, digest, and learns, day and night, on the word of the Lord, will not become entangled in the ways of the world. Searching the scriptures not only make us wise, but also make us truly blessed of the Lord. The more time we spend and delight in the word, the closer our relationship with God will become. As we become captivated by his word, the more we will grow in grace and continue to be transformed into the likeness of Christ.

The third promise given unto us is to commit thy way unto the Lord.

Without faith it is impossible to believe in Christ and be saved. Without faith it is impossible to please God. Faith, means believing in God and trusting in what he has promised unto us through his word. Committing to God means trusting in him to carry out the work that he has begun in our lives. Committing to God also means that we are not trying to live a good life by our own abilities and in our own strength. As Christians, total commitment to God means total trust in all that he reveals unto us through his word. It is then that we will discover that our willingness to live our life will align with Gods will for our life.

**Philippians 1: 6,....**being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

It is Gods will that all mankind be changed from a worldly state into a spiritual state, and through salvation become transformed into the image and likeness of his Son, Jesus Christ. God will perfect the good work that he has started within us as we commit our lives in full cooperation of his will. Commitment means striving to achieve spiritual maturity in this life so that he may grant unto us the fulfillment of that spiritual maturity in our eternal life to come.

The fourth and final promise comes by resting in the Lord and waiting patiently for him.

Now we will answer the question, why is it hard for us to wait upon the Lord? David tells us it is because we are overwhelmed when by comparison we begin to ponder the state of the godly man with the prosperous ways of the ungodly man. This means that while humbly walking in the spirit and in the truth of God's word, Satan, will tempt us to become envious of those who seem to be prospering while walking in the wicked ways of the world. We must allow the word of God to remind us that the success that comes through worldly achievement is but a brief moment in the light of eternity. As we humbly delight in the workings of God, we will begin to understand that his purpose and qualities of life have everlasting joy and eternal purpose. As we maintain our faith in the power and priorities of God, then and only then can we have patience, and the will to wait upon the Lord.

Let us pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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