

# Waiting with Hope

**Job 42:2**

“I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.”

**Ps. 13**

How long, O LORD?

Will You forget me forever?

How long will You hide Your face from me?

How long must I wrestle in my soul,  
with sorrow in my heart each day?

How long will my enemy dominate me?

Consider me and respond, O LORD my God.

Give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death,  
lest my enemy say, “I have overcome him,”  
and my foes rejoice when I fall.

But I have trusted in Your loving devotion;  
my heart will rejoice in Your salvation.

I will sing to the LORD, for He has been good to me.

**Ps. 33: 20-22**

Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.

For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy  
name. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,  
even as we hope in you.

**Ps. 84:11**

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor  
and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who  
walk uprightly.

**Ps. 119:68**

You are good and do good; teach me your statutes.

**Is. 55:8-9**

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My  
ways,” declares the Lord. “For as the heavens are higher than  
the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my  
thoughts than your thoughts.”

**Hab. 3:17-19**

Though the fig tree does not bud  
and no fruit is on the vines,  
though the olive crop fails  
and the fields produce no food,  
though the sheep are cut off from the fold  
and no cattle are in the stalls,  
yet I will exult in the LORD;  
I will rejoice in the God of my salvation!  
GOD the Lord is my strength;  
He makes my feet like those of a deer;  
He makes me walk upon the heights!

**2 Cor. 4: 8-9,16-18**

We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not  
in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not  
destroyed. . . . Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are  
wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our  
light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that  
far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on  
what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is  
eternal.

**2 Cor. 12:9-10**

But He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is  
perfected in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly in my  
weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest on me. That is why, for  
the sake of Christ, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in  
persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

**1 Thes. 5:16-18**

Rejoice at all times. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in every  
circumstance, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

**1 Peter 5:6-7**

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, so that in due  
time He may exalt you. Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares  
for you.

# *Wait*

By Russell Kelfer

Desperately, helplessly, longingly, I cried;  
Quietly, patiently, lovingly, God replied.  
I pled and I wept for a clue to my fate . . .  
And the Master so gently said, "Wait."

"Wait? you say wait?" my indignant reply.  
"Lord, I need answers, I need to know why!  
Is your hand shortened? Or have you not heard?  
By faith I have asked, and I'm claiming your Word.

"My future and all to which I relate  
Hangs in the balance, and you tell me to wait?  
I'm needing a 'yes', a go-ahead sign,  
Or even a 'no' to which I can resign.

"You promised, dear Lord, that if we believe,  
We need but to ask, and we shall receive.  
And Lord I've been asking, and this is my cry:  
I'm weary of asking! I need a reply."

Then quietly, softly, I learned of my fate,  
As my Master replied again, "Wait."  
So I slumped in my chair, defeated and taut,  
And grumbled to God, "So, I'm waiting for what?"

He seemed then to kneel, and His eyes met with mine . . .  
and He tenderly said, "I could give you a sign.  
I could shake the heavens and darken the sun.  
I could raise the dead and cause mountains to run.

"I could give all you seek and pleased you would be.  
You'd have what you want, but you wouldn't know Me.  
You'd not know the depth of my love for each saint.  
You'd not know the power that I give to the faint.

"You'd not learn to see through clouds of despair;  
You'd not learn to trust just by knowing I'm there.  
You'd not know the joy of resting in Me  
When darkness and silence are all you can see.

"You'd never experience the fullness of love  
When the peace of My spirit descends like a dove.  
You would know that I give, and I save, for a start,  
But you'd not know the depth of the beat of My heart.

"The glow of my comfort late into the night,  
The faith that I give when you walk without sight.  
The depth that's beyond getting just what you ask  
From an infinite God who makes what you have last.

"You'd never know, should your pain quickly flee,  
What it means that My grace is sufficient for thee.  
Yes, your dearest dreams overnight would come true,  
But, oh, the loss, if you missed what I'm doing in you.

"So, be silent, my child, and in time you will see  
That the greatest of gifts is to truly know me.  
And though oft My answers seem terribly late,  
My most precious answer of all is still . . . Wait."

**“I am here by God’s appointment, in His keeping, under His training, for His time.”**

**-Andrew Murray**

**“I’ve learned that the outcome (the victory, the husband, the baby, the freedom, the answered prayer...whatever the tangible thing the outcome of your wait is) it is still just the outcome. It is not the gift. It may be and probably is nothing short of miraculous. It may be a reward and it’s certainly His will, whatever the outcome may be but it is not the gift. The gift is the wait. And it may as well have a holy red bow around it. Take this time to listen & to look at the situation as God trying to teach you not trying to punish you.” -Kristi Poe**

**“The longer the blessing is in coming, the sweeter it will be when it arrives. That which is gained speedily by a single prayer is sometimes only a half-weighted blessing, but that which is gained after many a tug and many an awful struggle is a full-weighted and precious blessing. The blessing which costs us the most in prayer will be worth the most.” -Charles H. Spurgeon**

**“I do know that 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 thoughts.”**

**- Elisabeth Elliot**

**“What we wait for is far less important than what God is doing while we wait. In such times He works in us to develop those hard-to-achieve spiritual virtues of meekness, kindness, and patience with others. But more important, we learn to lean on God alone and to ‘rejoice and be glad in Him.’ F.B. Meyer said, ‘What a chapter might be written of God’s delays! It is the mystery of the art of educating human spirits to the finest temper of which they are capable. What searchings of heart...what testing of the Word of God, what uplifting of soul...All these are associated with those weary days of waiting, which are, nevertheless, big with spiritual density.’” -Our Daily Bread**