52 Days of Building a Second Wall with the Word and Wisdom

**Wait for the Lord**

Day 35 – June 17, 2013

**Please read Psalm 119:105-128.** Our **memory verse** for this week is **Psalm 119:105**.

As we are beginning the sixth week of building the second wall with the Word and wisdom, we want to encourage you to persevere in your well doing. We all grow weary, but the Lord comes to strengthen us with His Word. Along with His strengthening He brings great promises for those who persevere and wait upon Him.

The word **wait** is used several times in Psalm 119.

**Webster’s defines wait** – to stay or rest in expectation of the arrival of something; to rest in expectation and patience; to stay and not depart; to be ready to serve and obey; and to attend and accompany with submission and respect.

There are several Hebrew words for waiting. The main one used in Psalm 119 is **yachal:** to be patient, to hope. Because our hope is in the Lord, we can stay steadfast in our circumstances.

**Psalm 119:43** “And do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for I wait for Your ordinances.”

**Psalm 119:74** “May those who fear You see me and be glad, because I wait for Your word.”

**Psalm 119:81** “My soul languishes for Your salvation; I wait for Your word.”

**Psalm 119:114** “You are my hiding place and my shield; I wait for Your word.”

**Psalm 119:147** “I rise before dawn and cry for help; I wait for Your words.”

In all of these verses, David was calling out for help; and then he would say, I will wait for Your Word. He is acknowledging that the spoken and written word of God is the answer, and that he would wait for the answer from God before he moved. His hope and trust were in the Lord.

**Psalm 147:11** “The LORD favors those who fear Him, those who wait for His lovingkindness.”

As we study God’s Word, we see His faithfulness and lovingkindness to His people, causing us to rest in His sovereignty. The more we understand this, the more we can rest in our waiting. When our souls are at rest in the midst of our waiting, we can accompany the Lord and attend to what He is asking us to do with submission and respect.

**Psalm 119:105** “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

God’s words, those He speaks to us through His written Word and through His spoken word to our hearts, are to give us clear understanding in the way we are to go. His Word gives light to our lives. **It is a lamp to our feet**. The word **lamp** means a candle; a small personal light that gives light for each step we take, one step at a time. It is also **a light for our path**. The word for **light** means illumination, like the sun. It brightens up a large area so we can see the way the Lord wants us to travel. In our waiting, God will give us illumination, sometimes one step at a time and at other times He will show us a bigger picture of the way we are to go.

Another Hebrew word for waiting is **chul**. It means to wait patiently; to writhe in anguish, to become weak with waiting, to labor and give birth.

**Psalm 37:7** “Rest (waiting silently) in the LORD and wait patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who carries out wicked schemes.”

**The Lord acknowledges that waiting is painful for us.** We do not like to wait, and then to wait in silence, not complaining, that is agony. Our flesh tries to take comfort in complaining; but that is not the way of the Lord. **The following verses are great to memorize when we are waiting. They refocus our attention to the Lord and not to the pain of our waiting.**

**Psalm 27:13-14** “I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the LORD.”

Here are two other scriptures to help you wait in hope and silence.

**Lamentations 3:24-26** "The LORD is my portion, says my soul, therefore I have hope in Him. The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, to the person who seeks Him. It is good that he waits silently for the salvation of the LORD.”

**Psalm 62:5-8** “My soul, wait in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be shaken. On God my salvation and my glory rest*;* the rock of my strength, my refuge is in God. Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah (praise the Lord). ”

Sometimes waiting is hard because of the injustices we see in our lives and the lives of others; and we want to charge it and fix the situation. When we feel this way, we need to go to the Word of God and be strengthened.

**Proverbs 20:22** “Do not say, ‘I will repay evil’; **wait for the LORD, and He will save you**.”

**Isaiah 30:15** “For thus the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, has said, ‘In repentance and rest you will be saved, **In quietness and trust is your strength**.’ But you were not willing,”

Mankind has been talking about the return of the Lord for over 2000 years, and we are eagerly awaiting it as we see the time is near.

**Habakkuk 2:3** "For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay.”

The Hebrew word for **wait** used here is **chakah** – to adhere during the long wait. We must stick closely to the Lord and His Word in this time of waiting for His return.

The New Testament has a word for **patiently waiting - hupomonē.** It means cheerful or hopeful endurance; constancy; enduring, patiently waiting under a burden. Look at the **wonderful promises for those who wait.**

**Hebrews 10:35-38** “Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of **endurance**, so that when you have done the will of God, you may **receive what was promised**. For yet in a very little while, he who is coming will come, and will not delay. But my righteous one shall live by faith; and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him.”

**Galatians 6:9 “**Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.”

In our patient waiting, much fruit is produced.

**James 5:7-11** “Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains. You too **be patient**; **strengthen your hearts**, for the coming of the Lord is near. **Do not complain**, brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing right at the door. As an example, brethren, of suffering and patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that **the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.”**

**DIGGING DEEPER:**

Please read **Matthew 25:1-30.** We need to be like the ten wise virgins, and the faithful servants who were prepared and ready for the Lord’s return.

Please read these parables and let their wisdom shine light into your life. Are you ready, or are you leaning on the preparation of others?