THE RIGHT ATTITUDE TOWARDS WAITING

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

Coordinator

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Topic:

THE RIGHT ATTITUDE TOWARDS WAITING

Bible Text: Acts 1:4

Teacher: Moses O. Adewuyi

Prayer

We thank You LORD for today's study. I ask that You transform us even this day even as we behold you through your word in Jesus name I pray, Amen.

Introduction

Today, we will be looking at one of those pressing issues in Christendom. A lot have become frustrated and have left the faith because of the inability to understand this topic. It's a topic meant for every single christian no matter your position or calling. It will really go a long way in avoiding some spiritual disasters that may want to befall any christian. May the Holy Spirit grant us understanding in Jesus' name. Amen.

Study

Before we can look at the right attitude towards something, we need a knowledge of what we are to have a right attitude towards. And, this is what will lead us to knowing what waiting truly means.

What is waiting?

Waiting simply means to remain stationary in readiness or expectation. It also means to stay in place, in expectation of.

When you look at these two definitions, you will discover a common word in both sentences and that is the word; EXPECTATION. For a person to await something, it definitely means he is expecting that thing. You cannot separate expectation from waiting because it's mainly because one is expecting something or someone that he or she waits for. Example: we are all waiting for the second coming of Jesus, isn't it?

It's because He promised to come back to take us out of this world, that's why we are waiting for Him. We are expecting the day His promise would be fulfilled because we definitely know His promises are yea and Amen. So, that's what waiting means. The reason we need to address this in the body of Christ is because many christians are losing patience and dabbling into what they are not supposed to dabble into. Many do not even know the right attitude towards waiting. They just believe they are just to get themselves busy with one thing or the other just to while away time. This is not totally accurate and true. Because, if the right attitude is not displayed towards waiting, a person might keep waiting for a very long time without getting the required results. The truth is that, many of we christians have received various instructions from God concerning our destiny and many of the instructions entail what to do, waiting for the day of manifestation. Many have received revelations about how bright their futures are, but what are they doing? They are busy dwelling on it without any proper preparation towards or concerning it. The reason some people will not become what God wants them to become is not because of God. God has already settled it but it's because of themselves. They have refused to position themselves the

right way which will make the prophecies about their future come to reality.

Take for example;

If Mr. A and Mr. B met a person who speaks about their future to them. And, it is said that Mr. B will become a very great and wealthy man while Mr. A will serve under him. Having heard this, Mr. B becomes so happy and excited about what his future would look like and he decides not to do anything again. He only wakes, eats and sleeps, waiting for the future to come. While Mr. A becomes much more diligent than the way he used to be just to ensure he makes it in life. After 15-20 years, who do you think might likely be in the position of wealthier than the other?

Absolutely Mr. A. Because he maintained the right attitude towards waiting. While, Mr. B who dwelt on words only and keeps waiting for the day without any diligence will most likely become a pauper at last. This is why this study is very important. So that we can achieve and become what God wants us to become and also receive what He has in store for us.

Acts 1:4:

"And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me."

Luke, the Evangelist was the one speaking here and he was talking about the instructions that Jesus gave His disciples before ascending into heaven. Jesus commanded His disciples to tarry in Jerusalem and "wait" for the promise of the father which is the Holy spirit. They

were to wait in expectation of something. Their waiting had a specific location too. Assuming they left the location, they might not have been baptized in the Holy Ghost.

There are times that the reason you are still struggling to make it in life is because you are at the wrong location. Your blessings might have been designated for a particular location but you are somewhere else. And, the devil loves to distract people from where they really ought to be.

If you are a trader or business man or woman, you are to ask God where He wants you to establish your business. Don't you think the reason you have always been in debt and have not maximized any profit in your business is because you are in the wrong location? Think about that!

Nobody makes it in a location which has not been designated for his blessings. Unless the mercy of God finds him and relocates his blessings to the location he is. So, Jesus told them to stay in Jerusalem and WAIT for the promise of the father. Which means if they didn't receive the promise of the Father, they were not expected to leave the location. Because, no one knows the precise time the angel would receive his blessings. After Jesus told them that, He didn't tell them what they were to do while waiting, but, because they had lived and walked with Him, they understood what they were to do. Let's look at verse 12-14

Acts 1:12-14:

*"Then **returned** they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. And when they were*

come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren."

What did they do? They acted upon the instructions Jesus gave them and entered Jerusalem. And, after getting to Jerusalem, they immediately went to an upper room. After they gathered at the upper room, they CONTINUED in prayer and supplication. Which means they had been praying even before receiving such instructions. What did they do? They continued in prayer. They didn't just relent because Jesus said the promise of the father would come. That's where a lot of christians are missing it these days. The moment they hear an instruction or promise from God, they relent and believe that since God has promised, He will fulfill it. They relent in the way they used to pray which shouldn't be.

The disciples knew that Jesus would fulfill what He promised them because they had walked with Him for years and knew Him. But, yet, they continued in prayer and supplications. And, this was done in one accord! Not that one of them was wavering in heart and mind. But, they all concentrated and connected in one spirit. They continued praying daily till the day of Pentecost and they were not divided because they had started praying in one Accord for a long time.

Acts 2:1-2:

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as

of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting."

They demonstrated the right attitude towards their waiting period and we are expected to also know the right attitude towards any form of waiting we are to wait.

So, quickly, let's look at a few people who exhibited the right attitude towards their waiting time and the results they got.

Bible characters who exhibited the right attitude towards waiting

1. **Hannah:**

We all know the story of Hannah, how God deliberately shut her womb for a while. But, during those times,she was always going to Shiloh but not portraying the right attitude at first.

1 Sam 1:7:

"And as he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, so she provoked her; therefore she wept, and did not eat."

Because Peninnah always mocked her, she kept on weeping and refusing to eat. It was her waiting period but she was not doing the right thing. It was truly painful that she was temporarily barren, but would crying and starving oneself solve such an issue? No!

There are a lot of people out there these days that are looking for fruit of the womb and waiting on God. But, they keep grumbling and crying daily. They starve themselves like Hannah who refused to eat when it wasn't as though she was fasting. This is not the right attitude towards such a situation. Crying will only cause more harm to the

body. After crying, a headache will set in and such a person will start trying to look for medicine to use to cure it. Just because of the wrong attitude towards waiting. It might be frustrating and painful, but when waiting on God, we do not complain, grumble or cry because we have not received what we asked. We maintain the right attitude.

After Hannah had always been crying year after year and not receiving answers that she needed, she finally did the right thing. Let's look at what Hannah later did that was right.

1 Sam 1:9-11:

"So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the LORD. ***And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore****.* And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head."

Then, she took all her burdens and problems to God and even made a vow to draw the attention of God unto herself. She went to God and it was then the priest saw her and later prophesied unto her life. If she had continued weeping and not eaten without doing the right thing at that time, she would have continued that way for years. There are times that we have to change our mode of prayers and be humble in the presence of God. I'm sure Hannah had been praying for a child before then but she was more deliberate and concentrated on that fateful day, because she even went to the extent of saying she would give the first child to the Lord if it was a male.

If you are seeking the fruit of the womb, avoid complaining or grumbling. Learn the act of praying the right prayers with humility of heart. Ensure your heart posture is right and pray. And, in no time, the prayers would birth positive results.

2. **Manoah and his wife:**

Judg 13:2-3:

"And there was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah; and his wife was barren, and bore not. And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou art barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son."

Manoah's wife was barren and didn't bear. But, the next verse tells us of how an Angel appeared to the wife and told her that she would bear a son. Just the way she was told about the good thing coming very soon, so have a lot of christians been told about what they will become, the blessings coming their way, or how near the answers to their prayers are.

But, after she heard this and she told her husband, what did he do?

Judg 13:8:

"Then Manoah entreated the LORD, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born."

He spoke with the Lord. He asked for a clearer direction of what to do to the child. He was not just expectant but he also sought-after directions from God on what to do. The reason some of us fail in the

area of waiting is because we do not have a clear picture of what we are waiting for. There are times we need to ask God for a clearer understanding and there are times we already know what to do. As a family, the husband is meant to support the wife in the time of waiting and not pressurize her if peradventure they happen to be waiting upon God for a child.

Also, the wife is supposed to support the husband if preadventures are waiting on the lord for doors of breakthrough, as long as she knows that the husband is not the lazy type. One thing that is also necessary in the process of waiting is revisiting those promises and instructions that have been given by God. Manoah despite hearing from the wife everything the Angel said the first time still had to ask him again to be very sure.

Judg 13:12-14:

"And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him? And the angel of the LORD said unto Manoah, Of all that I said unto the woman let her beware. She may not eat of any thing that cometh of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing: all that I commanded her let her observe."

There are times that revisiting what has been written down will help us be strong no matter the challenges. This is why it's good to write down instructions and the words of prophecies given to us. Sometimes, we may feel discouraged and weary of how delayed the blessings or promises of God are, concerning our lives. But, the moment we revisit those things that we wrote down, they help us to

keep the flags moving. They inspire us and remind us that it's never the best time to give up.

Also, manoah offered burnt **offerings to the lord.**

Judg 13:19:

"So Manoah took a kid with a meat offering, and offered it upon a rock unto the LORD: and the angel did wondrously; and Manoah and his wife looked on."

During the period of waiting, we are to continually offer ourselves as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable unto God. We are to offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and praise as this will help us to stay more connected to God and to draw the face of God towards us.

3. **Job:**

One of the people who really tried to maintain the right attitude towards waiting is Job. Just as God said concerning him, that was exactly how it was. Different people came to discourage him and told him to curse God and die but he never yielded. Even his wife who was supposed to be by his side deserted him because of what he had experienced. But, he waited on the Lord to change his situation. He didn't curse God nor did he speak against him.

We should learn to always believe and trust God no matter what we are passing through. Some people, because of their situations, speak against God in pain. We should never be part of such. We should always learn to strongly trust in God and believe in Him for complete turn around. If you really think deeply about what happened to Job, you will really know it was something very disastrous and pathetic.

Something you would never wish for yourself. It was so bad that someone who was at a time very wealthy now became the attraction of dogs because of the sores upon him.

What a powerful, mighty and strange test he passed through. God must have truly studied him to know that no matter what happens to him, he wouldn't backslide or curse Him. A powerful lesson to learn from Job. Kai!

4. **Jesus:**

Even when Jesus was waiting for the time when He would be delivered up for persecution, He demonstrated the right attitude towards waiting.

Mar 14:36,42:

"And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt. ... Rise up, let us go; lo, he that betrayeth me is at hand."

He went up to pray just to get strengthened for the hour that was coming. As He waited, He prayed. No matter any form of waiting we experienced, the right attitude really matters. If we are to be delivered up for what we didn't do and we await the time, the right attitude matters. If Jesus had not gone to pray, He might have possibly tried escaping what was in front of Him because He suggested it during prayers but strength was made available for Him and He said the will of God be done.

I want us to know that every person has his own waiting period in life. No matter how you rush, there is generally a waiting period in

the life of every person. Look at anybody's life and see if you wouldn't find any waiting period in it. Some start school early but later wait after school before getting a job. Some people's lives look so fast, but their life span is cut short at a point in time. I so much took my time to look at the lives of many and I saw that there is always a waiting period.

Not as though the waiting period is evil but it's constant even though it might be very short. However, it's important to know when the devil is delaying one's blessings and when one's waiting period is on. The answer to Daniel's prayers was withstood for 21 days by the prince of Persia. It wasn't a regular or normal waiting period but orchestrated by the devil and once such is noticed, strictly go against such.

Like I said, no matter whatsoever you are waiting for, the right attitude towards it matters a lot.

Things that can be done during waiting periods:

1. Engaging in prayers and supplications.

2. Seeking the mind of God towards such situations.

3. Consulting spiritually minded men of God.

4. Raising Thanksgiving unto the Lord and praising the Lord.

5. Going on a spiritual retreat .

6. Knowing what God is saying per time per season.

7. Revisiting written instructions from God.

8. Seeking the mind of God through studying the word.

9. Having solid faith.

10. Believing that what has been said for good concerning your life will definitely come to pass.

11. Working towards achieving the goal.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven. Please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Saviour, I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today and I make a decision to obey and follow You, come into my life now, and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ name I pray, Amen.

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer please WhatsApp +2347067511039, and tell me that you just got saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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