

Wait upon God, Do not Do your Own

“1 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. 2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. 3 And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD. 4 Blessed is that man that maketh the LORD his trust, and respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies. 5 Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered. 6 Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required. 7 Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, 8 I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart. 9 I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O LORD, thou knowest. 10 I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation. 11 Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O LORD: let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me. 12 For innumerable evils have compassed me about: mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of mine head: therefore my heart faileth me. 13 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me: O LORD, make haste to help me. 14 Let them be ashamed and confounded together that seek after my soul to destroy it; let them be driven backward and put to shame that wish me evil. 15 Let them be desolate for a reward of their shame that say unto me, Aha, aha. 16 Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: let such as love thy salvation say continually, The LORD be magnified. 17 But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.” (Psalm 40:1-17 KJV)

Hardships and trials in life is something that people do not like to pass through. If we are in the midst of one of the common trials that man may be passing, we are tempted to escape or bypass the course that God has set before us. Trials are of many kinds and could be about finances, family life, sickness, about our work, children, relationships, people jealous of us, persecution, etc. But whatever trial that we are in, we cannot resort to our own way and method to overcome. God wants us to put Him first and pass through the trials in the way that He has set before us in order to accomplish His purpose. Our God the Righteous One and we cannot question His ways. Instead we need to know and understand His perfect plan for us. In every trial God has a purpose and reason why He allows you and me to pass through such a situation. So in order for us to learn from whatever problem or situation we are in, God wants us to behave appropriately and obey His Word and put His instruction as top priority. To overcome trials we ought to acknowledge God in the following aspects:

1. To be Patient: “1 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.” (Psalm 40:1 KJV) God’s timing and our timing is different. For us it might be too late but for God still there is time. Certain prayer requests it takes time until we receive an answer from God. * Remember the Lord had appointed time for any of your request to Him, and what you need to do is to wait upon God patiently, and He will do it and He will take you

out from the horrible pit, and out of the miry clay. * God knows the miry clay that you are in and will come to rescue you on his time and he will not be late.

2. Avoid resolutions or partial solutions: During a trial if we try to do our own we may succeed but only temporarily. We may be relieved but not completely healed or freed. In the course of time since the solution was not of God’s origin and method we find that the problem recurs, bounce back and is even worse. God knows our discomfort and suffering and it is far better to wait upon God for the solution rather than exhausting ourselves making resolution. When we wait upon God he will take us out from the miry clay and make us stand on a rock, but if we do our own then from the miry clay and back to the miry clay. King David waited upon God to relieve him, and finally the Lord enabled him to stand on solid ground. “1 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. 2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.” (Psalm 40:1-2 KJV) The Rock is Christ, and to set our feet on the rock it means to stand on His plan, ways and provision.

3. Avoid being enticed by others doing the wrong things: “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.” (Psalm 37:7 KJV) “1 Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. ” (Psalm 37:1-2) Cheating, stealing, telling lies, making fraud to solve problems will not work but will pull you more down in the miry clay and mud and complicate your trial. Let us not imitate others and do wrong; it will never help and finally we are hurt. So the best way to follow is what the Word of God says and what the ways of God dictates on us.

4. Allow God to test your faith: “2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.” (James 1:2-4 KJV) The Lord tests our faith with trials; not to harm us nor to put us down but in order for us to grow. Our perseverance in times of trials and testing brings maturity in our faith and perfection in our life.

5. We need to trust God more even when it seems impossible: “4 Blessed is that man that maketh the LORD his trust, and respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.” (Psalm 40:4 KJV) God is able and you will witness how He will deliver you from troubles and how He will take you out of the mud and makes your stand on a rock. There is nothing impossible with God.

6. Convey a better testimony: “3 And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.” (Psalm 40:3 KJV) As we wait upon God to solve our problems the Lord will bring the solution in a miracle that many will be touched and put their trust in the Lord, as David said, “many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD,” and that is another reason why we need to wait upon God in trials.

7. Reveal God’s power: Trials will show clearly that we have no power of our own. Trials teach us to be fully dependent on God to do miracles, and we need to fully trust in Him.

8. **Be optimistic, faithful and thankful:** “5 Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.” (Psalm 40:5 KJV) Let us not grumble, let us not look to the negative things that are happening around us and let us not to be pessimistic while we are in trials, but let us count the blessings that God had giving us and give Him thanks and praises for that and commit ourselves to serve Him.

9. **Fulfill God’s Word:** In trials and hardships we are called to fulfill the Scripture as Jesus did on the cross. Verses 6-8 is the prophecy that Jesus fulfilled when He died on the cross: “6 Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required. 7 Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, 8 I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.” (Psalm 40:6-8 KJV) Trials introduce to us the statutes, the laws, and the requirements of God. As we abide in God’s Law and continue to do His will we are acknowledging that God will fulfill His promises to us. Hardship and trials are not a reason for us not to obey fully the Word of God and follow His instructions. Many people when they face troubles their commitment to Christ would be less, but that should not be the case with us; God is waiting for us to show the same level of commitment and dedication to Him and to our ministries even in times of troubles. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ when they crucified Him for our sins, He suffered but He persevered and He kept His commitment to God. He suffered and died on the cross for our sins, He was buried but God raised Him from the dead on the third day to give eternal life to those who believe in Him and follow His steps in their lives. Christ even on the cross fulfilled the Scripture and did not neglect His responsibilities toward God, toward His mother who was under the cross, and toward His disciples. Remember also once you have the desire to do God’s will, He will enable you to do it and to persevere under trial.

10. **Impart God’s message:** “9 I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O LORD, thou knowest. 10 I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation.” (Psalm 40:9-10) God wants us even in the time of troubles to speak to others about His greatness. God wants us to evangelize even when we are in trials. Don’t speak about your problem but speak about His power and greatness to save. This is an expression of your faithfulness to Him and your trust and faith in His power, grace, mercy and love. When we are passing through trials yet continue living in holiness we are preaching the Word of God. And the message of God is imparted clearer to the people around us and becomes more effective to our acquaintances because our real faith and trust in God is displayed and God’s power and faithfulness is manifested.

11. **Demonstrate God’s mercy and grace:** “11 Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O LORD: let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me.” (Psalm 40:11) When we pass through trials we need to pray and we will experience God’s grace in a more profound way. And we can see and the people around us will see how God is sustaining us and providing for us. Pray and cry to God to save you, “Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me: O LORD, make haste to help me.” (Psalm 40:13 KJV) Let us cry to God to save us, to show us mercy and to preserve us.

12. **Turn to God in repentance:** True that troubles without numbers would made our life miserable but one thing we must not forget, our sins are another reason for our suffering: “12 For innumerable evils have compassed me about: mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of mine head: therefore my heart faileth me.” (Psalm 40:12 KJV) Trials and testing time is an opportunity for us to repent and return to God. The Lord allows trials in our life in order for us to be cleansed from sins. There are times when people are in ease they abuse God’s grace. Thus often when a person passes through a particular trial it brings repentance in the heart. A good attitude is to humble ourselves before God and confess and repent from our sins before we expect God would hear our cry for help.

13. **Let God defend you:** “14 Let them be ashamed and confounded together that seek after my soul to destroy it; let them be driven backward and put to shame that wish me evil. 15 Let them be desolate for a reward of their shame that say unto me, Aha, aha.” (Psalm 40:14-15 KJV) When we persevere with God and wait for Him to solve our problem in His way and method, then we will be rewarded. The Lord comes not only with a solution but also as our defender. In addition, He will handle and deal with our enemies and manage them in a way that will set us free completely from them.

14. **Be drawn to righteous people:** “16 But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation always say, “The LORD be exalted!” (Psalm 40:16) We need to wait upon God and rely on Him to solve our problems, because problems and trials that God would allow in our lives the purpose of them is that God will take away from us the evil people that we are not aware off. The Lord in His perfect timing will not only take us from our problems but also He will take us away from evil people and bring us to His righteous ones, –to His church, who exalt the Lord’s salvation.

15. **Continue to cry unto God and be bold in prayer:** “17 But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.” (Psalm 40:17 KJV) Plead with God for mercy; ask God to save you from those who oppress you and those who desire your ruin. Ask God to have mercy on you for His name sake to be glorified over all what He created. Many people’s prayer life, kneeling down at Jesus’ feet and fasting are all built up during hardships and trials. Therefore you shall not wait for God to put you in such a situation before making HIM as your top priority. Build up your life of prayer and fasting even before the coming of trials.

My Dear and Beloved: Whom we have in this world when we have problem and pass through difficult time? No one but the Lord alone; He is the only one who loves us and cares for us. In this life we may face troubles and hardships of different kinds; some we can cope with but the others are difficult to cope or manage. The noble thing that we need to mention here that in all circumstances God wants us to honor Him in our acts, decisions and conducts. We need to trust God more, realizing that even in difficult circumstances we should not be shaken or compromise and lose our integrity because God really can save us. God also wants us to do things in His ways. He wants us to wait patiently for Him to reveal who He is. When we take God’s Word and instruction first as a solution and refuge we overcome the hardships and trials that God sets before us. We learn to wait upon God and not to do our own, and thereafter we see clearly the purpose and we give glory to the LORD.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for the teaching that I received from your Word today. Lord thank you for your Word to me, for you have given me hope and enlighten me with the truth.

Repent and renounce all your sins. Lord forgive me all my sins _____.
Lord I commit myself not to do evil nor to be enticed with the deeds of the evil doers.

Lord, I commit myself to wait patiently on you. I commit myself to fulfill your Word in my life and to do your will and fulfill all my responsibilities. Lord I humble myself at your feet, I am poor and needy, come Lord to save me, O my God, do not delay.

Lord I pray for my brethren who committed their lives to you, Lord bless them with patience and more fruit of the Holy Spirit to wait upon you until you come to them and save them from their trials and their enemies. Help them Lord to persevere so they can obey your Word, fulfill the Scripture and do your will.

Lord I pray that you will help us as a church to wait patiently upon you and to have perseverance in facing all our trials and hardships. Lord save us from the following condition _____, Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit so that we can go and do the work of yours and fulfill your will until the time that you will come to take us. Lord protect us from evil doers and those enemies of yours who persecute us. Lord enable us to reach new souls and to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord take this message and spread it. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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