

Sometimes You Just Have to Wait



By
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Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation.

My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him. Psalm 62:1&5 (KJVA)

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 1:3&4 KJVA

In the market place of life there is one commodity that is always in demand and always in short supply, that commodity is patience. We use patience up so quickly until there are no reserves. You would think that it was a favorite consumer item, considering its constant demand and short supply, when in fact it is just the opposite. Very few people ever really exercise patience because it can often times require long suffering and forbearance. If that is so, how is it that it is always in short supply? Well, it is because when it is consumed it is not given a chance to be digested before it is expelled. It just comes in and goes right out. We tend to quickly use up our patience so that we can lose our cool and blow our stack. Oh, but the market place of life plays a cruel

game with the paradoxical commodity of patience, because there are some circumstances that arise in our lives that depend solely on time for the answer or solution. Indeed, **Sometimes You Just Have to Wait!** You will notice that I described the commodity of patience as being paradoxical. I think it a fitting descriptor because paradoxical means having a contradictory nature, which is a nature that has an inner conflict. The Apostle Paul describe his own bout with a paradoxical nature in Romans 7: 15-2

“¹⁵ I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶ And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸ For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature.^[a] For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹ So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²² For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; ²³ but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to

death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature^[b] a slave to the law of sin."

Just as Paul had to struggle with his inner conflict, we too are compelled to deal with the inner conflict of patience. For patience is something that we need and must have and yet it is something that we don't like to use. The global pandemic that we are all forced to endure requires a tremendous amount of patience. Our very lives depend upon our ability to exercise this extraordinary amount of patience. This pandemic gives new meaning to our topic **Sometimes You Just Have to Wait!** It is the state of waiting which gives rise to the need for patience. Waiting. Waiting. Waiting. There are at least four states of waiting that I wish us to should consider today in as much as we are all left no choice but to wait. Understanding these four states, I believe will empower our ability to wait and they are as follows:

1 There is the state of waiting which requires one to slow down or to delay action something or someone.

2 The second state of waiting post pones or defer to a later time.

3 Third state of waiting means to stand in readiness.

4 The fourth state of waiting means to rest in expectation.

The best example of these four states of waiting are captured in Christ's parable of the ten virgins found in Matthew 25:1-13.

¹ At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³ The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴ The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵ The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶ "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

⁷ "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'

⁹ "No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'

10 “But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

11 “Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’

12 “But he replied, ‘truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’

13 “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.”

The five foolish virgins did not make preparations for the Bridegroom. They not only procrastinated (2nd state) but tried to delay the five wise virgins, which would have endangered their being available for the Bridegroom (1st state)

The wise virgins were prepared. They brought oil for their lamps (3rd State)

They were able to rest knowing when the bridegroom came they would be ready(4th State) It think it only fair to ask, given that **Sometimes You Just Have to Wait**, at this point what state of waiting are you?

In our text today we find the Psalmist David waiting on God. He sings of trust God in spite of his present affliction. By his own example, he warns us not to be impatient and resort to

measures that will have destructive consequences. **Sometimes You Just Have to Wait!**

I know that these are hard times. Our states economies are strained and businesses want to get back to doing business but *Do not trust in extortion or put vain hope in stolen goods; though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.* In other word don't engage ill-fated practices just to make a dollar, it won't make any difference how much you make. if you dead you can't spend it! **Sometimes You Just Have to Wait!** Remember what Davis said “*6 Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. 7 My salvation and my honor depend on God^[c]; he is my mighty rock, my refuge. 8 Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.*

Paul also reminds us “*17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.*” 2Corinthians 4:17

“But watch thou in all things endure affliction, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.”2Timothy4:5

I know what you are thinking ‘Preacher we know **Sometimes You Just Have to Wait!** But how does that really benefit us?

“Those that wait upon the Lord, He will renew their strength. They will mount up with the wings of eagles, run and not be weary, walk and not faint.” Isaiah 40:31

When you find yourself troubled on every side, **Just Wait!** You won’t be in distress. When you are perplexed, **Just Wait!** You won’t be in despair. If you are persecuted, **Just Wait!** You won’t be forsaken, If you find yourself cast down, **Just Wait!**

You won’t be destroyed. Just remember what the preacher told you today **“Sometimes You Just Have to Wait!”**