

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: [Isaiah 40:27-31](#).
- B. From *The Bumps are What you Climb On* by W. Wiersbe (Ch. 17,4).
- C. Oh, how we hate to wait! It is down-right un-American to wait!
- D. But deep spiritual blessings are in store for those who learn how to wait on God.
- E. And this kind of waiting doesn't mean you don't do anything. This waiting is active and productive. Let's learn how to do it!

I. THOSE WHO WAITED ON GOD.

- A. Noah waited on God (Gen. 8:10-12).
[So he waited yet another seven days; and again he sent out the dove from the ark. 11 And the dove came to him toward evening; and behold, in her beak was a freshly picked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the water was abated from the earth. 12 Then he waited yet another seven days, and sent out the dove; but she did not return to him again.](#)
- B. David waited on the Lord.
 1. Waiting builds courage, we need not be ashamed (Psa. 25:2-4).
[O my God, in Thee I trust, Do not let me be ashamed; Do not let my enemies exult over me. 3 Indeed, none of those who wait for Thee will be ashamed; Those who deal treacherously without cause will be ashamed. 4 Make me know Thy ways, O LORD; Teach me Thy paths.](#)
 2. Waiting builds integrity and uprightness (Psa 25:21).
[Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, For I wait for Thee.](#)
 3. Waiting guarantees future blessings; focus on the important not immediate (Psa 37:7-9).
[Rest 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. 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret, it leads only to evildoing. 9 For evildoers will be cut off, But those who wait for the LORD, they will inherit the land.](#)
 4. Waiting improves our prayer life (Psa 40:1).
[I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me, and heard my cry.](#)
 5. Waiting feeds the soul with righteousness from the word (Psa. 119:81).
[My soul languishes for Thy salvation; I wait for Thy word.](#)
- C. Jeremiah waited on God. Instead of complaining, he waited (Lam. 3:25-26).
[The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, To the person who seeks Him. 26 It is good that he waits silently For the salvation of the LORD.](#)
- D. Job knew the value of waiting on God. Rather than die and take the easy way out, Job decides to wait until his fortune changes (Job 14:13-14)
["Oh that Thou wouldst hide me in Sheol, That Thou wouldst conceal me until Thy wrath returns to Thee, That Thou wouldst set a limit for me and remember me! 14 "If a man dies, will he live again? All the days of my struggle I will wait, Until my change comes."](#)
- E. Isaiah and Judah were to wait on the Lord.
 1. We are to rejoice in our waiting, for the outcome is good (Isa 25:9).
[And it will be said in that day, "Behold, this is our God for whom we have waited that He might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; Let us rejoice and be glad in His salvation."](#)
 2. Waiting is a godly way to handle times of distress (Isa. 33:2).
[O LORD, be gracious to us; we have waited for Thee. Be Thou their strength every morning, Our salvation also in the time of distress.](#)
- F. The apostle Paul spoke of the value of waiting:
 1. Wait with perseverance (Rom. 8:25).
[But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.](#)
 2. Don't be quick to condemn but wait on the Lord Jesus (1Cor. 4:5).

Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, *but wait* until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of *men's* hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God.

3. Eagerly wait for X's second coming (Phil. 3:20-21).

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; **21** who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

4. Serve God while you wait for Jesus (1Th. 1:9-10).

For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, **10** and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *that is* Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come.

II. THE BLESSINGS OF WAITING ON GOD.

- A. See Isaiah 40:31.

Yet those who wait for the LORD Will gain new strength; They will mount up *with* wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.

- B. First, by waiting, **we will renew, or gain new strength.**

1. The word 'renew' in Isa. 40:31 actually means "exchange." "They that wait upon the Lord shall exchange their strength..." We exchange our strength for His strength. We hand in our little pocket batteries and plug into His dynamo!

2. Notice the following passages on being renewed:

- a. 2Corinthians 4:16.

Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

- b. Ephesians 4:22-24.

...that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, **23** and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, **24** and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of* God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

- c. Colossians 3:9-11.

Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices, **10** and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him **11** --*a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

- B. Second, by waiting, **we learn how to live above our problems (fly).**

Sometimes all we can do is learn to live above our problems. We learn to put them in proper perspective. With height comes perspective. Those who fly can look at life in a way that allows them to effectively deal with each situation.

- C. Third, by waiting, **we learn to live amid our problems (run).**

There will be times in life when you must run. Crisis situations demand decisions and action. Doing the right thing in these times of stress is crucial. God will help you run!

- D. Fourth, by waiting, **we can walk and not be weary.**

The flying and running will probably be temporary situations in life. Walking is an everyday necessity. Those who can do it well know how to really live! Frankly, I think it is more difficult to keep on walking than it is to fly or run.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. God can help you fly, run, and walk., but there is something you must do. We must learn to wait upon the Lord (Isa. 40:31).
- B. It is only in this way that Christians "shall renew their strength..." Waiting on the Lord is the secret of keeping going when you feel like quitting.
- C. Got bumps and bruises in your life. Give your life to God through X, and begin learning how to wait!
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.