

My Soul Waits for the Lord - Psalm 130 **Notes, Family Worship, Bible Reading**

Notes from the Sermon

I am not a patient person. If you were near me in the McDonald's line you would probably hear me scream, "Do you know the meaning of 'fast-food.'" I am a member of a generation that has every answer at his fingertips, the solution to every problem on a video, and for the most part, I can have anything I want delivered to my door this afternoon or at the very least by the time I wake up. We don't have to wait on anything. Why would we consider patience a virtue, the real virtue in our culture is the ability to get things done. The truth is, a world without waiting is actually doing quite a bit of harm to us and our kids. Remember how creativity flowed from boredom? When kids didn't have anything to do they invented games, gave themselves to artwork, found ways to entertain themselves. Now the cry of, "I'm bored," has to me met instantly by the parents with some form of entertainment, usually a screen of some sort.

Yet, our character is formed deeply in the seasons of uncertainty and suffering. We are like our kids, we think that if we cry out to God His response will be immediate and positive. Like all of the Psalms, we need this prayer-song, the cry of devotion declaring from the depths, "I will wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His Word I will hope." This song for the road is a reminder that we do not have a Pez dispenser God. His goal is the display of His glory which always is for our good and the Gospel to the nations. Yet, we need to know, His definition of good is not the same as ours, and often the path to good in God's plan involves waiting, trusting, praying, and holding on to Him for dear life.

The Psalm cries from the depths. The language here is almost always used to refer to the depth of the sea, the image of a watery grave with no escape. It brings to mind the story of Jonah, thrown from the boat, sinking to the bottom of the ocean, no hope of rescue. The reality is that life in this world has times and seasons in the depths. Sometimes those depths are our own making, the result of sinful choices and bad decisions in a moment or for a lifetime. The residual of our sin and the deep consequences feel like drowning in our own humanity. On the other hand, there are also times that the depths are the consequence of living in a fallen and broken world. Suffering here in this life is a reality, and often we find ourselves in the depths where all we can do is cry out to God.

But here is our problem in the Amazon world, without meaning to, we have accepted the belief that God will act as fast as we expect everything else in life, and if He doesn't it either means that our suffering is a result of His displeasure with us or proof that He isn't really involved in our lives. This Psalm is a beautiful reminder to trust, praise, and pray when we are in the depths, when God doesn't answer right away, when we have to wait. We need to hear the words of Paul in Romans calling us to rejoice in our suffering knowing that our hardships, when coupled to Christ lead to endurance, to patience, and that patience is the fertile soil for character which has as its fruit true hope. Don't miss this, Paul is teaching us that our rejoicing in the wait is what ultimately produces in us a true and lasting hope that cannot be taken.

There are times when each of us find ourselves in seasons of uncertainty, struggle, and pain. We can echo the words I heard from a suffering saint this week, "The hardest part is the unknown." It is in those moments where our faith is tested and made real. To wait on the Lord means that we trust His character, purpose, promises, and plan in the middle of that uncertainty. To wait means that we don't take matters in our own hands, and we don't become our own savior. To wait is to continue trusting God while being obedient to His Word in our pain and suffering.

But this Psalm reminds us that as followers of Jesus, being in the depths is not the result of God's displeasure and it is not God's way of giving us our just deserts. We

deserve the depths. Or as the Psalmist states it, if the Lord would mark our iniquities, who could stand? Any good gift we have is a result of grace, grace flowing down from the cross of Jesus. Grace secured in Christ coming out of the grave. So there so we have forgiveness. I believe this is in this song because God's people need to continually remind themselves that their sin is paid for, the guilt is covered, and we have been reconciled with God. While the pit may be a natural consequence of our sin, we can know that the pit is not God's way of getting us back. He loves us, is for us, and His promises are always true for those who trust Him, and in patience wait for Him.

Bible Reading for the Week

Daily Bible Readings

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
2 Chron icles 14	2 Chron icles 15	2 Chron icles 16	2 Chron icles 17	2 Chron icles 18	2 Chron icles 19	2 Chron icles 20

Reading from this past week: Psalm 130

Reading in preparation for this coming Sunday: Psalm 131

Family Worship

Song - *Only a Holy God*

https://youtu.be/OWsZov9KJ_U?si=rktQOYfccKXSADPY

Gospel Project

Unit: Paul's Mission To Rome

Story: Paul Preached in Rome

Big Picture Question: Why should we praise Jesus?

Answer: We should praise Jesus for what He has done to provide our salvation and because He will one day make all things right.

Scripture: Acts 28

New City Catechism

Question 30: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

Answer: Receiving and resting on him alone for salvation as he is offered to us in the gospel.

Verse: Galatians 2:20

Scripture

Psalm 130

- Why is it important for us to cry out to God when we are in the depths of struggle and hardship?
- What does it mean to wait on the Lord? How is waiting on Jesus connected to trusting Him?
- Are you a patient person? Why is waiting on the Lord so difficult?
- What are some good and beautiful things God can do in our lives during seasons of waiting?

Prayer

*Pray for our Genesis Kids Ministry and leaders, and for the Genesis Kids Club taking place this week.

*Pray that God would teach us to wait patiently on the Lord.