

From the Family Room

Creekwood Church of Christ
Mobile, AL

17 March, 2019

WAIT FOR THE LORD

I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

Psalms 27:13-14

In the summer of 2018, we learned a great lesson about waiting. We had flown 12 hours from Athens, Greece to Philadelphia. Just a five hour wait longer and we would depart for New Orleans. Then the long journey would end with a short drive of about 2 hours to our bed in Mobile. The mission work in Athens had been productive and Freda and I had enjoyed the trip with Lincoln and Philip. But none of the beds we had slept in had been our bed. While in Philadelphia we tracked the posted departure times to make sure our flight had not been delayed. It was never delayed. It was cancelled about one hour before take off! Severe thunderstorms had hit New Orleans. After several tense hours of talks, the airline agreed to pay for a motel for us in Philadelphia. We had to wait another night before we slept in our bed. After a great night's sleep, we left on time early the next morning on our flight and even landed ahead of schedule in New Orleans. We ate lunch in our house in Mobile. Our patience paid off with an uneventful and smooth flight.

If it had been left up to us, we would have left Philadelphia the afternoon before and may have been diverted from New Orleans to land in another city or at least had a scary rough landing in New Orleans. We trusted that the airlines knew what they were doing and made the best decision for all concerned.

Waiting applies to us regardless of age and issues. Waiting may not be easy, but the reward can be great for us when we wait on the Lord. While we waited in the hometown of the Philadelphia Eagles, I thought how cool it would be if we mounted up with wings like eagles and flew to New Orleans.

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable. He gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might He increases power. Though youths grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly, yet those who ⁱⁿwait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will ⁱⁿmount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.

Isaiah 40:28-31

Waiting for the Lord indicates waiting with trust in Him. This trust brings in the element of patience. You may be a young person waiting for the perfect person to marry. You have prayed for this but still no answer. Trust God and wait patiently for His answer. He clearly knows the heart of a person. He can see down the road and knows the end of things. You may be a married couple facing financial or family struggles. You may be waiting for a baby. You may be raising a teen. You may be facing a marital issue. Pray and wait for the Lord with courage expecting an answer. You may be an elderly person facing severe health issues. Be strong in your prayers and wait for the Lord with faith.

Life does not always go by our schedule. We cannot control everything. From waiting for our food at a restaurant to waiting for God about critical matters in life, we must learn to wait with patience, faith, confidence, and courage. I pray that in our hurried world, we will receive God's blessings for us at just the right time as we wait faithfully for the Lord.

RICKY