

Hebrews 6:15

Patience and Promise

There is a profound relationship between waiting, suffering and inheritance. There is much to be said about the need to wait in this microwave society. We don't like to wait, we, in fact refuse to do so... our microwave reality is killing us in every way possible. we want a magic pill to fix our bad habits, an endless credit card to satiate our restless, endless covetousness and a guilt-free, consequence-free get out of jail card to allow us to do whatever we want and still have some form of "god" in our lives. But we need to understand the benefits of learning just how to be content in the now, in the moment and in the powerful place of relying on God while waiting on His timing instead of rushing forward, trying to bend the present moment into the shape of our flawed understanding of the future... because our understanding of the future, and especially the will of God concerning that future is fundamentally and constantly flawed. We see

through a glass darkly, but one day God will reveal all that He has been doing and it will be glorious in our sight! However, that day is not this day, and this day has the particular challenge of calling us to wait, to trust, to rely upon our God and know that He is working out His will for our good and His glory!

I. TRUST IN GOD ALWAYS!

God is always to be trusted and taken at His word

Proverbs 3.5-13

- A. He is never to be argued and double talked to suit the desires of someone else
- B. God will not relent on His plan and working in our lives

1 Samuel 15:29

²⁹ And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent.”

Proverbs 19:21

*²¹ There are many plans in a man's heart,
Nevertheless the Lord's counsel—that will
stand.*

Ephesians 1:11

*¹¹ In Him also we have obtained an
inheritance, being predestined according to
the purpose of Him who works all things
according to the counsel of His will,*

C. God does not view time as we do

2Peter 3.8-9

D. God works towards His intended outcome
always

Isaiah 30:18–26

E. God is willing to give us temporary difficulties
to produce the eternal good

Joshua 24.14-28

II. CONSIDER THE PRICE

- A. No matter the price we pay for the waiting, it does not come close to the price paid by God for the provision

1Corinthians 6.19-20

Acts 20.281

Peter 1:17–21

- B. There is no price that is too much for the gain we are promised

2Peter 4.12-19

III. GAINING THE REWARD

- A. There are tremendous gains to be had by learning to trust and wait

Psalms 25.3-5

- B. The will of God is always far better than the will of man

1 Corinthians 2:9

⁹ But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

Ephesians 3:20–21

²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, ²¹ to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

- C. The heart of the father His people is always for our good

Jeremiah 29.10-14

- D. The moment will pass, the gain will last

1Thess 4.13-18

- E. Do not fret over the time or the distance, inches make miles and seconds make years...

While it is true that it is a LOT of inches and seconds (63,360 & 31,536,000 respectively) it is also true that those huge numbers are meaningless in the awesome sweep of eternity and we will look back on them as the merest of hiccups...

F. Hold fast to His promise, and in so doing hold fast to the God who secures that promise by His own nature and His own powerful word, upholding us by His omnipotent right hand

Psalm 18:35

³⁵ You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; Your right hand has held me up, Your gentleness has made me great.

Isaiah 41:10

¹⁰ Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'