



Mighty in the Word

*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (I Cor. 1.18).*

*Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)
The Wise Still Seek Him*

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*of the
Lord
Jesus Christ*

They that Wait upon the Lord Shall Renew Their Strength!

Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the LORD, and my judgment is passed over from my God?

Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, *[that]* the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? *[there is]* no searching of his understanding.

He giveth power to the faint; and to *[them that have]* no might he increaseth strength.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

But **they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *[their]* strength;** they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *[and]* they shall walk, and not faint (Isa 40.27-31).

Oh, how long since we have waited upon the Lord Jesus - as we have sought Him to direct us in all we do, as we have sought to know His will in our lives – and all for His glory. Yes, wait does not indicate inactivity necessarily; however there are times that we need to be still before Him (Ps 46). Sometimes activity clutters and distracts us from hearing His voice.

Waiting upon the Lord is to move towards Him daily in what He lays before us that day, with expectation of what it may be that lies before us each step we take with Him on the straight gate and narrow, the way which leadeth to life. We have to remind ourselves that St. Paul, and others all through the Bible, walked with the Lord daily as - they waited upon the Lord for the next step they were to take.

Yes, waiting is not inactivity, but waiting upon the Lord is to serve Him with a sense of expectancy, knowing how we need His help, His guidance. It is placing our trust in Him, our confidence in Him and our Hope. There is a song I saw that speaks volumes in this, "Go Forth in Great Confidence." We must have great faith, great confidence, in the Lord knowing He will guide each step we take for His Kingdom's work.

I am reminded of Jeremiah, the prophet, who understood waiting upon the Lord as only He could provide what they needed (Jer 14.22), even rain. In an earlier verse, Jeremiah acknowledges the sin of the children of Israel, but comes to the point of knowing they must wait upon the Lord even for rain. But they waited upon the Lord by prayer and supplication, waited in His presence – knowing He alone was their creator and provider.

How long has it been since you trusted in the Lord? Proverbs 3.5, 6 makes it clear that our trust must be in the Lord. We faint when we take our eyes, our hearts, off the Lord and look down, when we look to another.

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

When we trust in the Lord and lean not on our understanding, we will not grow weary for the Lord will uphold us as we live for Him and serve Him. We will not grow faint for the Lord will give to us new life in Him, as we live for Him and serve Him. We will grow strong in the Lord - as we trust in Him.

We must wait in the presence of the Lord, as we serve Him, that we might rise above the world in our daily walk with the Lord. How long has it been since you waited upon the Lord, waited in His presence – as you served Him?

How long has it been since your strength in the Lord has been renewed? How long since you waited upon the Lord in your daily walk with the Lord?

How long has it been?

If we would spend more nights before God on our faces in prayer there would be more days of power as we walk with the Lord – serving Him daily!

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Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

When we wait upon the Lord, we are renewed in Him. As we walk daily among the people who are followers of Satan, we need to be renewed in Him; we need our strength renewed that we might walk on in the Lord - though we may be compassed by the enemy on every side – as sometimes it surely does seem we are. It is coming aside in prayer, and in the reading of the Holy Bible, with our hearts that we are strengthened, that we are renewed in Him. It is the Word of God that renews us when we read it with our hearts, seeking what the Lord Jesus is saying to us in our walk. It is not about trying to seek out a teaching, as is done today, to have control over another. Too many read the Word with their head trying to tell others what they need to believe, and how they need to follow them.

We need to be renewed in the Lord by His Word, that we might walk under His authority, to walk a life of holiness and righteousness in Him. This life is not about goodness, as the world sees it. It is not about being good. A life in Jesus Christ is about holiness, about walking with the Lord God in holiness, to which He calls us. And, we need the strength, the confidence, the courage of the Lord to walk with Him as did Joshua in Chapter One in the Book of Joshua.

Jos 1:6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them.

Jos 1:7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it *[to]* the right hand or *[to]* the left, that thou mayest prosper

Jos 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God *[is]* with thee whithersoever thou goest.

I think of Joshua, and how the Lord spoke to Him, that he must be strong, he must be very courageous, be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed (shattered), for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. This is a strong word to Joshua. But, Joshua was living for the Lord; he was not straddling the fence. He was not walking the goodly road that many walk today, believing that is good enough – and it gets them what they want. Oh, No! Joshua knew he was called to wait upon the Lord, to walk in the strength of the Lord God, to walk in obedience to the Lord. When we walk with the Lord, walk in obedience to the Lord, a life of holiness, the Lord makes it clear, "for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

While we are troubled on every side, we are not overwhelmed; we are perplexed, but are not in despair; we suffer persecution, but are not forsaken; we are cast down, but are not destroyed (II Cor 4:8, 9)

Some believe that when you live a goodly life that God is keeping you from all harm. I have heard that said. Just have faith, and you have it made. Let us go to the Word, the Holy Bible:

Mat 5:11 Blessed are ye, when *[men]* shall revile you, and persecute *[you]*, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Mat 5:12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great *[is]* your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Joshua came out of Egypt and was with Moses through the desert. He knew that "the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" did not mean he would not suffer. It meant that the Lord was with Joshua to strengthen him through the journey of life. The Lord was with Joshua as Joshua lived a life of godliness, a life of holiness unto the Lord. Joshua served under Moses and knew how to wait upon the Lord. I am reminded of Exodus 33:11.

Exo 33:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: **but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.**

Joshua spent time in the presence of the Lord. Waiting upon the Lord is also to worship the Lord God Almighty in Christ Jesus. Oh, I sense that Joshua listened and heard the Lord, waited upon the Lord. He was being prepared for a servant's life unto the Lord many years in the future. Joshua knew how to wait upon the Lord, and was made ready when that time came to continue leading the children of Israel, leading them into the Promised Land.

Joshua's eyes and heart were upon the Lord, to worship the Lord. He did not seek advancement; he did not seek to replace Moses. He had a servant's heart and his eyes, his heart, was upon worshiping the Lord. He knew how to wait upon the Lord.

People today will tell you they pray. But their understanding of praying is quickly giving the Lord God a child's want list, giv-me, giv-me, giv-me list. It is not about serving the Lord today. It is not about waiting in the presence of the Lord.

Oh, that we might love the Lord and wait upon Him, and Him alone, worship Him in the beauty of holiness.

Waiting upon the Lord brings us to constancy, patience, and quietness before the Lord. It is walking with the Lord as we wait upon Him. When we live waiting upon the Lord, with our hearts seeking the Lord, I believe that we will recognize the false Christs, of which Matthew writes, and will know beyond a shadow of a doubt the presence of our Lord. Many will see miracles that the false Christs perform, and will trust in the false Christs - because of their miracles. But those waiting upon the Lord Jesus Christ will know Him by His presence. We will know and experience His love, His mercy, and His grace. We will also know and experience His strength in His presence, and will stand in awe of Him, and will worship Him, King of kings and Lord of lords.

Oh, there is more. "They shall run and not be weary." I sometimes grow so weary, am exhausted, in this life. We must wait upon the Lord, wait in His presence, be aware of His presence as we live for Him in whatever we are doing each day. Our strength is renewed by a prayer life, a time that calls us aside to be in His presence, to sit in His presence. It is a heart that prays giving thanks to the Lord for His many blessings, most of all for His crucifixion upon the Cross of Calvary for our sins, and give thanks that He rose from the dead and is alive for evermore: He is the Lord of lords.