

WHO'S IN CHARGE? DARE WE TRUST HIM?

I. Isaiah 40:18-31

A. We find ourselves in the midst of cultural upheaval, national crises, great turmoil and division. The pandemic continues. Inflation is rising. Supply chains are faltering. Travel is impeded. Borders are not secure. Crime is escalating. Thievery is rampant--from identity theft, to online scams, to porch pirating. Businesses are hurting. Jobs are plentiful but the workers are few. Hospitals are bulging at the seams. Trust in the media, law enforcement, education, the military, health professionals and political leaders has evaporated. More laws presently exist to protect endangered species than unborn children. Evil is increasingly called good while all that the Word of God considers good is increasingly labeled evil. This label is more and more being branded upon the followers of Christ.

B. Our text today takes us to a dark time in Israel's past. Steeped in idolatry, they're bound for exile. Their worship of pagan gods (*i.e. demons*) included the sacrifice of babies and children. Worship of the One True God (Yahweh) had become unpopular. Most of their kings had done evil in the sight of the LORD. False prophets--who were fat & rich--kept prophesying prosperity and security, that Israel's best days were yet to come. They weren't. Meanwhile God's prophets prophesied judgement, invasion, and captivity. They were mocked, laughed at, and rejected. Still they were right. Our text today is from one of God's true prophets--Isaiah.

C. Isaiah 40:18-31 (ESV) is from Israel's most renowned prophet...

1) **V18-20: 18** *To whom then will you liken God, or what likeness compare with Him? 19* *An idol! A craftsman casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and casts for it silver chains. 20* *He who is too impoverished for an offering chooses wood that will not rot; he seeks out a skillful craftsman to set up an idol that will not move. (Isaiah's sarcasm is well-aimed!)*

2) **V21-24: 21** *Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? 22* *It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; 23* *who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. 24* *Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth when He blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. (God's sovereignty and power is declared!)*

3) **V25-26: (Then God speaks for Himself:)** **25** *To whom then will you compare Me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. 26* *Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? (stars & galaxies) He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of His might and because He is strong in power, not one is missing. (5,000 stars & planets were visible to astronomers in Isaiah's day; today the estimated number of galaxies alone is in the billions with stars in the trillions! And God knows their number, has named each one, and keeps track of them all!)*

4) **V27: 27** *Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right (the justice due me) is disregarded by my God"? (God says:*

"Why do you think I don't see what you're up to?!" "Why do you think you deserve better?!" "Why don't you see that I'm fully in control of the whole universe I've created?!" God will have the last say on everything! The ending of the book is already written!

5) V28-31: So before we read the final 4 verses of the Chapter, let's hear these words as though written for us. We who are weary and tired. We who may be worried and anxious. We of growing age and limitations. We whose popularity will likely soon evaporate. Before we lose heart, Isaiah tells us where to place our trust... **28** *Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable.* **29** *He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength. (Could that be any of you?)* **30** *Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;* **31** *but they who wait for the LORD (They who wait means: They who hope in; they who trust in; they who rely upon; they who look expectantly towards, they who patiently cling to and believe what God has promised.) shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. (There's a reason words that are 2800 years old still resonate!)*

D. Isaiah made many prophecies with promises of redemption. These were made to Israel but also to surrounding nations. Ultimately his words were for us too. And while God admonished His people for putting their trust in princes, He promised a Prince who would be King, One in whom we all might place our trust, One who would triumph in a way never imagined. John 12:41 says: "Isaiah said these things because he saw His glory and spoke of Him." Spoke of Who? Let's find out...

1) Isaiah 7:14 (ESV) says: 14 *Therefore the LORD Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. (Immanuel means, "God with us." But we know this Prince will have many names.)*

2) Isaiah 9:6-7 (ESV) gives us more of those names and what He'll accomplish: 6 *For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.* **7** *Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*

3) Isaiah 11:1-5 (ESV) tells us more: 1 *There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch from his roots shall bear fruit.* **2** *And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.* **3** *And His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what His eyes see, or decide disputes by what His ears hear,* **4** *but with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall kill the wicked.* **5** *Righteousness shall be the belt of His waist, and faithfulness the belt of His loins.*

4) Isaiah 53:3-6 (ESV) was written nearly 8 centuries before the Prince of Peace would achieve our peace; not with a sword but with a cross: 3 *He was despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.* **4** *Surely He has borne our griefs and*

carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. **5** But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement (**punishment**) that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed. **6** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned--every one--to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

E. Isaiah wrote 800 years before the Prince of Peace took to the cross, rose from the dead, and ascended to His throne on high. While Isaiah looked forward in time to the cross, BC we might say; the Apostles wrote of it afterwards; AD as it's said.

1) 1 Peter 2:24-25 (ESV) Peter melds his words to Isaiah 53: 24 *He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. 25* *For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.*

2) Colossians 1:19-20 (VOICE) are Paul's words on how the Prince of Peace purchased our peace: 19 *God was pleased that all His fullness should forever dwell in the Son 20* *who, as predetermined by God, bled peace into the world by His death on the cross as God's means of reconciling to Himself the whole creation--all things in heaven and all things on earth.*

3) 1 John 4:9-10 (AMP) are from John, the Apostle whom Jesus loved: 9 *By this the love of God was displayed in us, in that God has sent His [One and] only begotten Son [the One who is truly unique, the only One of His kind] into the world so that we might live through Him. 10* *In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation [that is, the atoning sacrifice, and the satisfying offering] for our sins [fulfilling God's requirement for justice against sin and placating His wrath].*

F. Think of all the predominate religions & philosophies that have come and gone. Both BC and AD. Know any Baal worshipers these days? Do you know anyone personally who views their world through the lens of ancient Egyptian, Babylonian, Persian, Greek or Roman gods or goddesses? Remember Paul's NT encounter with pagan philosophers on Mars Hill in Athens? (*Acts 17 tells all about it.*) They listened to Paul for awhile, but when He got to the part about Jesus' death & resurrection, they scoffed and dismissed him. And yet from that hill of idols surrounded by pagan temples, only Paul's worldview still holds...

G. Therefore take courage in these challenging days: *"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." (And that would include all of you!)*

*** Close with Prayer...**

[Scriptures, Videos, & Bonus Stuff](#)

[Isaiah 40:18-31 \(ESV\)](#)

18 To whom then will you liken God, or what likeness compare with Him? **19** An idol! A craftsman casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and casts for it silver chains. **20** He who is too impoverished for an offering chooses wood that will not rot; he seeks out a skillful craftsman to set up an idol that will not move. **21** Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? **22** It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; **23** who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. **24** Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth when He blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. **25** To whom then will you compare Me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. **26** Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of His might and because He is strong in power, not one is missing. **27** Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? **28** Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. **29** He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength. **30** Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; **31** but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 7:14 (ESV)

14 Therefore the LORD Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

Isaiah 9:6-7 (ESV)

6 For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **7** Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 11:1-5 (ESV)

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Isaiah 53:3-6 (ESV)

3 He was despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. **4** Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. **5** But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed. **6** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned--every one--to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

1 Peter 2:24-25 (ESV)

24 He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. **25** For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Colossians 1:19-20 (VOICE)

19 God was pleased that all His fullness should forever dwell in the Son **20** who, as predetermined by God, bled peace into the world by His death on the cross as God's means of reconciling to Himself the whole creation--all things in heaven and all things on earth.

1 John 4:9-10 (AMP)

9 By this the love of God was displayed in us, in that God has sent His [One and] only begotten Son [the One who is truly unique, the only One of His kind] into the world so that we might live through Him. **10** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation [that is, the atoning sacrifice, and the satisfying offering] for our sins [fulfilling God's requirement for justice against sin and placating His wrath].

Bonus Rations for Further Nourishment

A Pandemic of Disunity - Randy Alcorn (Desiring God)

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/a-pandemic-of-disunity>

A Cultural Moment for Revival? - Pastor Nick Batzig

<https://www.feedingonchrist.com/blog/post/a-cultural-moment-for-revival>

7 Traits of False Teachers - Pastor Colin Smith (Unlocking the Bible)

<https://unlockingthebible.org/2021/10/7-traits-of-false-teachers/>

Psalms 25:1-22 (ESV)

Of David. **1** To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. **2** O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me. **3** Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. **4** Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths. **5** Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long. **6** Remember Your

mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. **7** Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD! **8** Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He instructs sinners in the way. **9** He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way. **10** All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies. **11** For Your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. **12** Who is the man who fears the LORD? Him will He instruct in the way that he should choose. **13** His soul shall abide in well-being, and his offspring shall inherit the land. **14** The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear Him, and He makes known to them His covenant. **15** My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for He will pluck my feet out of the net. **16** Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. **17** The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses. **18** Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins. **19** Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me. **20** Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in You. **21** May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for You. **22** Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

Psalm 27:1-14 (ESV)

1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? **2** When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. **3** Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. **4** One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in His temple. **5** For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock. **6** And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD. **7** Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! **8** You have said, "Seek My face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek." **9** Hide not Your face from me. Turn not Your servant away in anger, O You who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation! **10** For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me in. **11** Teach me Your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. **12** Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence. **13** I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! **14** Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Psalm 130:5-6 (AMP)

5 I wait [patiently] for the LORD, my soul [expectantly] waits, and in His word do I hope. **6** My soul waits for the Lord, more than the watchmen for the morning; more than the watchmen for the morning.

Galatians 6:9-10 (ESV)

9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. **10** So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

2 Peter 3:8-9 (ESV)

8 But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. **9** The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

Acts 17:16-34 (NIV) (Paul on Mars Hill a.k.a. The Areopagus or Hill of Aires)

16 While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. **17** So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. **18** A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbler trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. **19** Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? **20** You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean." **21** (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.) **22** Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. **23** For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: *to an unknown god*. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship--and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. **24** "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. **25** And He is not served by human hands, as if He needed anything. Rather, He Himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. **26** From one man He made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. **27** God did this so that they would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find Him, though He is not far from any one of us. **28** *'For in him we live and move and have our being.'* As some of your own poets have said, *'We are his offspring.'* **29** "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the Divine Being is like gold or silver or stone--an image made by human design and skill. **30** In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent. **31** For He has set a day when He will judge the world with justice by the Man He has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising Him from the dead." **32** When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, "We want to hear you again on this subject." **33** At that, Paul left the Council. **34** Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

1 Corinthians 10:18-22 (ESV)

18 Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar? **19** What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? **20** No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. **21** You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. **22** Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)

21 God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

Galatians 3:13 (ESV)

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us--for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree..."

Quote by Charles Spurgeon

"If the Lord Jehovah makes us wait, let us do so with our whole hearts; for blessed are all they that wait for Him. He is worth waiting for. The waiting itself is beneficial to us: it tries faith, exercises patience, trains submission, and endears the blessing when it comes. The Lord's people have always been a waiting people.

Quote by Allie Boman

"What did Isaiah mean when he wrote those words: "wait upon the Lord"? What would it feel like to have eagles' wings at a time like this? To put it simply, it all boils down to where your power comes from. An eagle rises to great heights, but has no jet engine behind him. His body is designed to maximize the power of the air, and he soars on unseen currents with agility and ease. Isaiah welcomes us to see ourselves as dependent creatures, designed to rely upon something unseen, something greater than ourselves. It is not a weakness of the eagle that he is so dependent upon the power of air. Rather, this dependence is his greatest strength."

- Allie Boman, Article titled, "*Wait Upon the Lord*" June 27, 2019. To read the full piece, go to:

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-study/topical-studies/how-do-we-wait-upon-the-lord.html>

Quote by S. Michael Houdmann

"Waiting on the Lord involves the confident expectation of a positive result in which we place a great hope. This expectation is based on knowledge of and trust in God."

Quote by G. Campbell Morgan

"Waiting for God is not laziness. Waiting for God is not the abandonment of effort. Waiting for God means, first, activity under command; second, readiness for any new command that may come; third, the ability to do nothing until the command is given."

Quote by Andrew Murray

"If any are inclined to despond, because they do not have such patience, let them be of good courage. It is in the course of our feeble and very imperfect waiting that God

Himself, by His hidden power, strengthens us and works out in us the patience of the great saints, the patience of Christ Himself."

Quote by John Ortberg

"Biblically, waiting is not just something we have to do until we get what we want. Waiting is part of the process of becoming what God wants us to be."

Quote by Adrian Rogers

"You can save a lot of time waiting on God."

What Does it Mean to Wait on the Lord?

S. Michael Houdmann - GotQuestions.org

<https://www.gotquestions.org/wait-on-the-Lord.html>

What does it mean to wait on the Lord (Psalm 27:14)?

Answer

In the Psalms, Proverbs, and many other books of the Bible, we find commands to wait on the Lord" like this one: *"Wait on the LORD: Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: Wait, I say, on the LORD"* ([Psalm 27:14, KJV](#)). Most modern translations use *"wait for the Lord."* To English readers, the idea of waiting on the Lord might seem like a passive exercise, but a closer study reveals that it's nothing of the sort.

Patient, confident trust in the Lord is the central idea of the exhortation to wait on the Lord. The entire [Psalm 27](#) is a prayer to God for help. It beautifully illustrates the meaning of waiting on the Lord. Throughout the psalm's eloquent lines, David expresses authentic faith and courageous trust in God, based on his confident expectation that the Lord will rescue and save him in his time of trouble.

First, we see that we can wait on the Lord by [trusting in Him](#). David expressed great confidence in the Lord, who was his light, salvation, and stronghold ([Psalm 27:1-2](#)). This kind of dynamic trust dispels fear and despair: *"When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident"* (verses 2-3).

We can wait on the Lord by [seeking Him](#). David conveyed his trust in the Lord by longing to be with Him, to commune in God's presence and worship in His temple: *"One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple"* ([Psalm 27:4](#)). In God's dwelling place, praising and worshiping the Lord, David felt safe and secure: *"For in the day of trouble He will keep me safe in His dwelling; He will hide me in the shelter of His sacred tent and set me high upon a rock. Then my*

head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at His sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD” (verses 5–6).

We can wait on the Lord through [prayer](#), as David did in eager expectation of deliverance ([Psalm 27:7–14](#)). David asked God for wisdom, direction (verse 11), and protection (verse 12), wholly believing he would “*see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living*” (verse 13). Those who wait on the Lord can fully expect Him to fulfill their hope: “*Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame*” ([Psalm 25:3, ESV](#)).

Waiting on the Lord involves the confident expectation of a positive result in which we place a great hope. This expectation is based on knowledge of and trust in God. Those who do not know the Lord will not wait on Him; neither will those who fail to trust Him. We must be confident of who God is and what He is capable of doing. Those who wait on the Lord do not lose heart in their prayers: “*This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us*” ([1 John 5:14](#)). Waiting on the Lord renews our strength ([Isaiah 40:31](#)). Waiting on the Lord by trusting, seeking, and praying establishes our faith and brings serenity and stability: “*I waited patiently for the LORD; He turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in Him*” ([Psalm 40:1–3](#)). As this passage affirms, waiting on the Lord is also a testimony to others who will see our faith and, as a result, put their trust in God.

Waiting on the Lord brings God’s blessings: “*Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides You, who acts on behalf of those who wait for Him*” ([Isaiah 64:4](#); see also [1 Corinthians 1:7](#)).

Sometimes we might feel as though the Lord does not see or hear us—that He’s not answering our prayers. During these moments, we can put our complete faith and trust in the living God. We can wait on the Lord in eager anticipation, knowing that He is with us and in control of our lives. He will do what He has promised. He will rescue and save us. He is always working for our good, even when we don’t feel Him ([Romans 8:28](#)). Through patient, courageous, active trusting, seeking, and prayer, we can learn to wait on the Lord.

- While he is not the author of every article on GotQuestions.org, for citation purposes, you may reference our CEO, S. Michael Houdmann.