

WHO'S WAITING FOR WHO?

Psalm 40:1-3

Waiting: - Remaining inactive in one place while expecting something to happen

THE CHURCH WAITS FOR JESUS

I Corinthians 1:7; Titus 2:13 Christians have been waiting two millennial for Jesus to return and receive His bride and the gathering of all our saved loved ones and the grand marriage of the Lamb.

Romans 8:23 The church eagerly awaits our Savior to come and give all the saints their new bodies and to present us to the Father as His adopted sons.

II Peter 3:11-14 We are exhorted to wait patiently and to live in holiness and godliness waiting for the new heavens and new earth in which only righteousness will dwell.

I Corinthians 4:5 We are told to wait for His appearing and not judge anybody because we are not capable of looking at hearts and motives of a person. God will make all things open when He comes.

Mark 15:43; Matthew 13:24-30 Along with the nation Israel, the church is to wait patiently for that glorious time when Jesus comes back to earth and establishes His Kingdom. Soon after King Jesus will be enthroned on King Davids throne and will rule and reign with His saints for one thousand years.

Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 18:8; 19:12-26 While we wait for our Lord to come for us He has given us a question that only believers can answer. Will He find a faithful bride waiting and working? Will He be able to reward many who have stayed busy working, serving and winning others?

JESUS WAITS FOR THE CHURCH

Patience: - The capacity to accept or tolerate delay, trouble, or suffering without being angry

Romans 5:15 We are told that God is described to be the God of patience. We therefore must understand that if God was not waiting for something to happen He would not have to be patient. What is God waiting for before He sends Jesus back for His church?

A. James 5:7 GOD WAITS FOR THE PRECIOUS FRUIT OF THE EARTH

This verse clearly tells us that God is patiently waiting for a particular requirement that must occur before Jesus returns. God is represented here as the husbandman. The fruit He is waiting for are souls from the early church and the last of the souls from the Laodicean church age.

II Peter 3:9 God's great desire is that everyone be saved. Here we see the *longsuffering* (great patience) in God waiting for that to happen. Why isn't everyone saved if that's what He wants?

Acts 1:8 Apparently God did everything He wanted to do while Jesus was here the first time. Before He left, Jesus gave us the power we need in the person of the Holy Spirit and instructions to teach and preach His gospel to the whole world. He gave the church the responsibility to win the world for Him.

Matthew 9:37-38; John 4:35; I Corinthians 3:6 God makes it plain that the world as we know it is way past being ripe for the harvest. However, there are not enough laborers to reap all that is needed.

B. II Peter 3:18 GOD WAITS FOR THE MATURITY OF HIS CHURCH

Galatians 4:1-2 There is a spiritual parable in these verses. A child is never ready to rule until they grow up. We need to grow up if we are to receive our inheritance. God needs grown-ups for service.

Romans 8:19; I Corinthians 3:1 God is waiting for His children to grow up and act mature.

Hebrews 5:12 God's word is spiritual food that comes in two varieties; milk and meat. Most believers stay on a steady diet of milk their whole Christian life. That's why God is still waiting.

I Corinthians 1:4-7; 3:1-3 This church is a picture of how the church has stayed stagnant and foolish over the last two thousand years. That is why God is still waiting on us to get the job done.