\*WAITING ON GOD\*

 \*"Blessed is the man that hears Me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at My door post"\*

Prov 8:34.

It will not be an exaggeration to say you cannot go through a day without using or acting the word "wait".

The bible says: "To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven: a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to harvest.

Ecc 3:1&2.

However, there is a waiting period between the planting and the harvest time.

Basically, our lives are tailored around having to wait for people or for something every day of our lives.

The message of today is about \*trusting God\* for everything.

When you \*wait on God\* you are basically relying on God for everything.

 \*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight".\*

Prov 3:5-6.

The time in between when someone prays about something or you receive a word,vision or God given dream and the time of fulfilment is the waiting period.

It is the time when it seems God is silent and you feel abandoned with the issues of life.

It is like being in the wilderness without any hope in sight.

The bible has records of many people that had to wait for so long before they receive their promises:

Abraham had to wait for 25 years;

 \*"After he had patiently endured he obtained the promise"\*

Hebrews 6:14

David, after he had been anointed to be king had to wait for 14 years before he became king.

Joseph also had to wait for 13 years before he saw the manifestation of the dream he had twice.

In as much as we have been able to establish that our lives revolves around waiting; the question that comes to mind is: how much of patience do we exchibit in waiting?

Human beings generally are not patient in nature; we want things to happen immediately.

The human mind is about instant gratification. We want everything now.

Ask any believer today; when do you want your baby? Sure you will hear a loud "Now" .

Ironically, the way God has designed the coming of a new born; there has to be the sexual intercourse of the husband and the wife, followed by conception of pregnancy that takes about 6-9 months for the baby to be properly formed then comes the delivery.

We live on the fast lane now, not wanting to wait. Fast food, fast vehicles and motorcycle have characterized our lives.

Unfortunately, an erroneous slogan which shows our lack of patience has found it's way into the Christendom:

"Heaven helps those who help themselves"

It is the lie of the devil.

This does not suggest you should not work.

You find people who are in the habit of taking short cuts about issues of life, will tend to align with such an erroneous talk.

Waiting on God is about total dependence on God.

I have seen Christian going to Church on a Sunday and during the week same person will visit one shrine or the other to seek for a way out on same issues they prayed about in Church.

"But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we must wait with patience"

 \*Romans 8:25\*

 \*"Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him do not fret because of him that prosper in his way because of the man who carries out wicked schemes".\*

Psalm 37:7.

Jesus said:

"while men slept the enemy came to sow tares among the wheat and went his way"

\*Matthew13:25\*

A farmer will ensure he waters the crops and remove weeds that can damage the growth of the crops.

In the same vein a true believer is expected to engage in consistent prayer and being spiritually alert to the scheme of the enemy.

Jesus said to the disciples : \*'watch and pray"\*

Matthew 26:41

The enemy is not sleeping why should a believer not be alert to attack of the enemy.

 \*"Be sober, be very vigilant , because your adversary the devil as a roaring lion walketh about seeking whom he may devour ".\* 1 Peter 5:8.

The waiting time for Christians is a time of seeking God and meditating in His words.

Patience is a virtue that all believers should cultivate. You cannot outsmart God.

God has a time table for everything in life.

"At the time appointed I will return unto thee according to the time of life and Sarai shall have a son".

\*Gen 18:14\*

The question that comes to mind is: Why does God make us to wait and not answer us immediately?

The following are some of the reasons God wants us to wait based on my study:

✅To transform character.

God wants us to be a better person.

 \*"And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ;will himself restore, confirm, strengthen and establish you\* .

1 Peter 5:10

God uses the time of waiting to make us a better person.

✅To build our anticipation and hope in Him.

God uses the waiting period to make us focus on Him.

 \*"Remember your word to your servant in which you have made me to hope"\*

Psalm 119:49.

✅For Glory of God to be manifested.

When Jesus was told about Lazarus, He said:

" \*This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God that the Son of God might be glorified thereby"\*

 John 11:4.

✅To reveal His purpose and motive.

Everything God does he knows the end from the beginning.

 \*"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."\*

Gen 50:20.

In order to receive the promise or answer to prayer the waiting period is the process period before the promise materialises.

The amount of time everyone spend waiting is determined by God.

"But when the fulness of the time was come God sent forth His Son.."

 \*Gal 4:4\*

God does things at His own time

and His time is always the best.

God is never late is always on time.

However, without doubt God is not in a hurry; He likes to take His time just as He did with Lazarus.

In conclusion, if you are still living in sin and you are waiting on God? You will have to seek for forgiveness of sins because you might wait for a longer time than it is necessary.

 \*"Surely the arm of the Lord is not short to save not His ear too deaf to hear your call but your inequities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that He will not hear"\*.

Isaiah 59:1&2.

Repent of your sins now.

 \*Prayer\*: Father please grant me Grace to be able to wait upon you for the fulfilment of your promises upon my life.

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Shalom.

Signed, Bro Cole