

P754

GRACE NOTES PROGRAM

TOPIC: WAITING - The results of not waiting

SONGS: REST

TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS

INTRO: Welcome to Grace Notes. On our last program we covered some of the benefits we can realize from waiting on (or for) the Lord. Waiting is never an easy thing to do, but it is part of life, and useful for our spiritual growth.

Susannah Spurgeon, wife of Charles Spurgeon, counseled her own heart while waiting with these words:

“The Lord has strewn the pages of God’s Word with promises of blessedness to those who wait for Him. And remember, His slightest Word stands fast and sure; it can never fail you. So, my soul, see that you have a PROMISE underneath thee, for then your waiting will be RESTING and a FIRM FOOTHOLD, for your hope will give you CONFIDENCE in Him who has said, ‘They shall not be ashamed that wait for Me.’”

Psalm 37:7a says...

Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him.

Let’s continue now as our host Barbara Sandbek introduces our topic again with a fitting song.

***** **WRITER: Larnelle Harris**

***** REST *** LENGTH: 3:30 12 sec intro**

REST

***Rest, the Lord is near refuse to fear – enjoy His love
Trust, He'll bring release & perfect paces will calm your mind
There is no need for needless worry
With such a Savior, you have no cause to ever doubt
His perfect Word, still reassures in any trials***

***Rest, the Lord is near, lift up your prayer for He is strong
Trust His mighty power fills every hour of all your days
There is no need for needless worry
With such a Savior, you have no cause to ever doubt
His perfect Word, still reassures in any trials***

***Call Him if you grow frightened
Call Him with loving care He'll lift your burden & you'll
Rest, the Lord is near refuse to fear – enjoy His love
Trust His mighty power fills every hour of all your days***

Rest the Lord is near refuse to fear – enjoy His.

**So far, we've covered some benefits of waiting on (or for) the Lord.
Why not take time to time to do a word study on the word 'wait'.
You will be blessed.**

Now, onto some drawbacks to not waiting.

**First, let's take look at nature – specifically at the butterfly.
It starts with a caterpillar that spins itself a silky cocoon and transforms
its body into a butterfly.**

**Here's a story of a man who found a cocoon of a butterfly and brought it
home.**

**One day a small opening appeared in the cocoon. He watched the butterfly
as it struggled to force its body through that little hole. It appeared as if it
had gotten as far as it could, and could go no further so he took a pair of
scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly
emerged easily, but it had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings. He**

expected the wings to dry out, enlarge, and expand to support the swollen body so the butterfly could fly.

But neither happened!

The butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings.

It never was able to fly.

What the man in his kindness and haste didn't understand, was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle were required for the butterfly to be able to fly. The butterfly must push its way through the tiny opening to force the fluid from its body and wings. Only through the struggle can the butterfly's wings be ready for flight, once it emerges from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need. If God allowed us to go through life without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We wouldn't be as strong as what we need to be.

And we could never fly.

Now, let's look at 1 Samuel 13:8-13, for a Biblical example of the consequences for not waiting.

Samuel, King Saul's prophet, had told Saul to wait in Gilgal for him for seven days. Samuel didn't show up on time so Saul decided to make burnt offering and peace offering sacrifices himself. He was not a Levite. When Samuel arrived, he questioned Saul as to why he did this since he was not authorized. Saul made a lame excuse.

Samuel said he had acted foolishly and disobeyed God's commandment. Saul's impatience and disrespect caused his dethronement, and worst of all, the Holy Spirit left him.

So I say, don't settle for less than God's best by not being willing to wait on the Lord.

After all, is it just possible that God is waiting on us?

One of our recording projects failed on the first pass due to an illness. I was totally confused over it all since I had committed the project to the

Lord. But God comforted me with His Word, after three hours of searching, in 1 Peter 5:6-7 which says...

**Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God,
that He may exalt you in due time.**

God gave me a poem from these verses.

You were there all along for me

By Barbara Sandbek

I'm left alone with just my thoughts

No one to tell what's in my heart

Your answer was "no", or maybe "Wait"

But I can't tell...just can't think straight.

My faith is bruised...I feel betrayed.

Where were You, Lord...why didn't You stay?

I looked for signs I thought I saw

So I pursued...no doubts at all.

The door slammed shut...the time was wrong?

How long must I wait, dear Lord, how long?

I'm hurt, confused...do You really care?

It seems so dark. I can't see You there.

I'd go away if I thought I could

But I'd just turn back, I know I would

I really trust You. You are so great.

Thought these silent times make my heart ache.

I'll humble myself under Your Mighty Hand.

You'll lift me up and I will stand.

In due time You'll move and I will see

That You were there all along for me.

God knew I wasn't fully prepared to sing the songs, so He interrupted my schedule, gave me four months to practice, and in that time I found two more great songs.

GOD WAITS FOR US to get it right - [Isaiah 30:18](#) reads..

**And therefore will the LORD wait, that He may be GRACIOUS unto
YOU, and therefore will He be exalted, that He may have MERCY**

upon YOU: for the LORD is a God of judgment: BLESSED are all they that wait for Him.

As Believers in Jesus, with no unconfessed sin in our life, we can rest assured that God will answer our prayers with either a 'yes', 'no' or 'wait'. God's timing is perfect but it often involves waiting. He is rarely early but is never late with the answer. And His solution usually involves more than what we ask for.

There is rarely ever a straight line from where we are to where God wants us to be. And there is a lot of scenery along the way – maybe some changed hearts – maybe our own. He may not change the situation, but if He can change our attitude toward it, that is a true miracle.

Now some other thoughts concerning waiting...

We, as Believers in Jesus, are ALL IN A WAIT STATE

(after all, this is not our real HOME)

- don't wait TOO LONG to do what God is telling you to do NOW – otherwise you'll miss great opportunities**
- enjoy where you are in life and the things He gives (be thankful)**
- appreciate the fact that He wants to be involved in your life**
- look for Him in the small things not just for big things**
- be willing to change**
- trust GOD and enjoy sweet rest. He has it all figured out.**

******* WRITERS: Willian JamesKirkpatrick/**

*** Tis so sweet to trust * Canetti Staton/Louisa M. Stead**

******* LENGTH: 3:45**

You've been listening to Grace Notes. If you have been blessed by this ministry, your note of encouragement would be greatly appreciated. You can write to us

**at Sandbek Ministries P.O. Box 581 Fallston, MD 21047
or email us through our web site at www.gracenotesradio.com.**

Join us on our next program. Until then, let your grace notes be a song of praise!