## Prayer in a Season of Waiting



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by <u>Dave Butts</u>

We are currently in a season of spiritual waiting. For Jews this was the period following Passover and leading up to Shavuot. Christians also embrace this time of waiting from Easter to Pentecost. After the Resurrection of Jesus, He spent 40 days with the disciples. He ate with them, taught them, and demonstrated His resurrected life. But after 40 days, He ascended to the Father and told them to wait in Jerusalem for the promised Spirit.

It's rare to find someone who likes to wait. Perhaps though, that is an attribute for which we should strive. We are certainly commanded often in scripture to wait on and for the Lord. Waiting paid off for those first disciples. Ten days of

prayer, worship, and waiting on the Lord led them to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. They would never be the same as they received the promise of the Father.

We are in a season of waiting. Press into that. Make it a time of prayer and anticipation. What is God about to do? Our waiting upon the Lord is an active time that places everything in the hands of the Lord. Though we live post-Pentecost and the Spirit has come to us, we still wait on the Lord and fresh fillings of His Spirit. The timing of the Lord's work and purposes are still in His hands and we pray with increased passion and anticipation during these days of waiting. Look up, your redemption draws near!

## How to Pray in a Time of Waiting

 Lord, in my waiting, help me to be strong and filled with courage.

"Wait for the Lord; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the Lord" (Psalm 27:14).

 Lord Jesus, in my waiting, lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation.

"Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; For You I wait all the day" (Psalm 25:5).

• God Almighty, in my waiting, help me to have patience as Your return is near.

"Now as for you, dear brothers who are waiting for the Lord's return, be patient, like a farmer who waits until the autumn for his precious harvest to ripen" (James 5:7).

 Holy One, in my waiting, may Your integrity and uprightness preserve me.

"Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for

You" (Psalm 25:21).

• Father, Your word says that if I will wait for You I will gain new strength, mount up with wings like eagles, run and not get tired and walk without becoming weary!
Help me to trust You for these promises.

"Yet those who wait for the Lord Will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary" (Isaiah 40:31).

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