

December 1, 2021

THE WAITING CHRISTIAN

1. INTRODUCTION

- A. Waiting is _____
- B. Waiting is stressful
- C. Waiting is part of life
- D. Waiting is a key _____ that God uses to prove His children.
- E. Waiting is the _____ of the Christian life.
- F. Waiting is culturally a lost art.

2. WAITING FOR SALVATION

- A. The act of salvation is _____ completed when one receives this gift of God by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - i. The means of salvation is grace through _____ (Eph. 2:8-9).
 - 1. *Salvation is not earned by doing good works (Eph. 2:9; Rom. 11:6).*
 - 2. *Salvation is received by faith (Eph. 2:8).*
 - 3. *Salvation is complete as soon as we quit relying on our good works and instead rely on God's grace.*
 - 4. *Application: Salvation is not something to wait for.*
 - ii. The _____ of saving faith is the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:30-31).
 - 1. *"Believe" is the verb form of the word translated "faith" in Eph. 2:8.*
 - a. *Πιστις – faith*
 - b. *Πιστευω – I believe*
 - 2. *The person being believed in is the Lord Jesus Christ.*
 - 3. *"Shalt be saved"*
 - a. *Passive shows the believer is being saved by someone.*
 - b. *Future _____ the certainty of salvation.*
 - 4. *Application: You have no strength to save yourself.*
 - iii. The accomplishment of salvation is instantaneous.
 - 1. *Salvation is an immediate result of _____ (Acts 16:31; John 3:16).*
 - 2. *Salvation is the immediate conclusion of a process (Eph 1:13).*

- a. *Hearing leads to belief.*
 - b. *Believers receive the Holy Spirit.*
 - 3. *Salvation is _____ by the Holy Spirit.*
 - a. *He brings joy, peace, and hope (Rom. 15:13).*
 - b. *He guides Christians into truth (John 14:26).*
 - c. *He _____ believers (Rom. 15:16).*
 - 4. *Application: Your salvation is complete as soon as you believe, but salvation is only the beginning of God's work in your life.*
- B. *The moment of salvation is followed by the Holy Spirit's work of _____: progressively making the Christian more like Christ.*
 - i. *The means of sanctification is still grace through faith.*
 - 1. *Sanctification is the _____ work (Rom. 15:16).*
 - 2. *Sanctification progresses through the Holy Spirit's enabling not a person's effort (Rom. 7:14-21, 24-25).*
 - 3. *Sanctification makes believers like Christ (Gal. 5:22-25; Eph. 5:9-10).*
 - 4. *Application: Allow the Holy Spirit to do His work in your heart and make you more like Him.*
 - ii. *The object of sanctifying faith is the _____ of God.*
 - 1. *He promised freedom from sin (Gal. 6:7-9; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:8; 22:14-15).*
 - 2. *He promised freedom from the _____ (John 3:14-16; 1 Cor. 15:50-55; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 21:4; 22:3a).*
 - 3. *He promised satisfaction based on eternal sources (Matt. 6:19-21; 22:30; Rev. 22:3b-5).*
 - 4. *He promised His eternal presence (Rev. 3:12; 21:3).*
 - 5. *He promised more than we can imagine (1 Cor. 2:9).*
 - 6. *He promised _____: the final achievement of Christlikeness (Rom. 8:18-30).*
 - iii. *The accomplishment of sanctification is the moment of glorification.*
 - 1. *This event is still future; therefore, we must hold fast.*
 - a. *Faith that pleases God receives a promise and hopes in it until the promise _____ (Heb. 11:1-2, 6-40).*
 - i. *Noah believed God would send a flood and spent 100 years building the Ark because he hoped in God's promise of salvation.*
 - ii. *Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob believed God would give them the land of Israel; they lived there as pilgrims their whole lives because they hoped God would fulfill His promise.*
 - iii. *Joseph believed God's promise to take Israel back to the Promised Land and commanded his descendants to take his _____ with them when they went.*

- iv. Moses believed the promise that God would take Israel to the Promised Land, and he led the nation on a miraculous wandering through the wilderness.
 - v. Rahab believed God would give Canaan to the Israelites; she hid the spies and hoped that God would give her and her family deliverance.
 - vi. The _____ and _____ performed amazing feats of courage because they believed God's promise about the land. They hoped God would protect them as they stepped out in faith.
 - vii. These people hoped in God's promises and by faith acted on that hope although they never saw the fulfillment.
 - viii. We also hope in God's promises and by faith live holy lives although we haven't seen their fulfillment yet.
- b. *Faith that pleases God is not distracted by temporary hardship (Rom. 8:35-39; 2 Tim. 3:12).*
 - c. *Faith that pleases God is not sidetracked by the fear of _____ (Heb. 2:13-15; Job 13:15).*
 - d. *Faith that pleases God holds fast in the sanctifying process until the end (Heb. 10:23-25).*
2. *When we are glorified, _____ will also end because the promises will be fulfilled (1 Cor. 13:9-13).*

C. Summary:

- i. Salvation is complete at the moment of belief.
- ii. Salvation begins sanctification: the lifelong waiting process that all Christians are subject to.
- iii. Christians do not wait for earthly comforts or possessions.
- iv. Christians wait for glorification: the end of sanctification and the end of all hardships.
- v. A Christian's earthly trials are _____ to prove his dedication to his ultimate heavenly calling.