

PSALMS 25-37

THE GLORY
DUE HIS NAME

CLARENCE SEXTON



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PILLAR
AND
GROUND
OF THE TRUTH

CHURCH PLANTING
SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES

THE GLORY DUE HIS NAME

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Dedication

This book is affectionately dedicated to the ministers of the gospel who have finished their course and brought glory to the Lord. As we think of them—Harold Sightler, Lee Roberson, Curtis Hutson—they gave us no blemishes. They were always pointing others to Christ.

Carrence Sutton
Feb 5:42

Introduction

*A*s you read each of these psalms, may the Lord speak to you. Listen to His voice with a determination to obey Him. This book has been written with the intention for the readers “*to teach others also*” (II Timothy 2:2).

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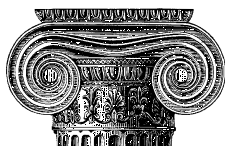


PSALM 25:1-3

“Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me. Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.”

CHAPTER ONE

THERE IS NO SHAME IN WAITING



he decisions we make are more important than the days we live. You could live a long life, but if you make the wrong decisions, your life can be ruined. You could live a short life and make right decisions, and your life would be a grand victory. Decisions are more important than days, and the greatest act of your will concerns what you do with Jesus Christ.

There was a day in my life when I was confronted with the gospel. A sincere Christian told me of my sin, and of God's power to save. I prayed and asked God to forgive my sin, and by faith I came to know Jesus Christ as my Saviour. Eternal life, the life of the Eternal One, became mine that day. Now, day by day I am to walk with the Saviour.

The Twenty-fifth Psalm speaks to us concerning our personal walk with God. This psalm encompasses most of David's life; it was written in his old age. The Bible says in verses one through twenty-two,

There Is No Shame in Waiting

Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me. Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause. Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD. Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way. The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way. All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies. For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great. What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose. His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth. The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant. Mine eyes are ever toward the LORD; for he shall pluck my feet out of the net. Turn thee unto me, and have mercy upon me; for I am desolate and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged: O bring thou me out of my distresses. Look upon mine affliction and my pain; and forgive all my sins. Consider mine enemies; for they are many; and they hate me with cruel hatred. O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I put my trust in thee. Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee. Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

There Is No Shame in Waiting

Notice again verse nine, *“The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.”* Meekness is not weakness. Meekness is yielding to God. Remember Moses was a mighty man who led millions of people, yet God says he was a man of meekness. This was because he was yielded to God. As we yield to the Lord, He will guide and teach us.

We read in verse thirteen, *“His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth.”* Consider the blessings our children receive if we are faithful to our God. Mark the expression, *“his seed shall inherit the earth.”* My children have definitely benefited from the fact that my wife and I have determined to live the Christian life. All the glory and praise goes to God. Children should be very grateful to God if they have Christian parents. The greatest thing you can do for your children is to leave them a true Christian heritage.

In verse fourteen we read, *“The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him.”* Do you have someone with whom you are so close that you feel comfortable sharing secrets with him? Our Lord desires for us to be close to Him and know that *“the secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.”*

The *“secret of the LORD”* is to know that everything is going to be all right. He will care for us.

I once spoke with a man while waiting outside the neurological intensive care ward of a local hospital. He said, “Pastor, God spoke to me when my wife fell beside our automobile. I called out to God. He gave me peace, and helped me in that moment to trust Him with her life and with my need.” Dear one, it is a beautiful thing to know *“the secret of the LORD.”*

In this twenty-fifth Psalm, we also read repeatedly that we are to wait on the Lord. The Bible says in verse three, *“Yea, let none that*



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There Is No Shame in Waiting

wait on thee be ashamed.” We read again in verse five, *“Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.”* The Bible says in verse twenty-one, *“Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.”*

As we read the Bible, we must be careful to place the emphasis where God places the emphasis. If we will learn to place the emphasis



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in Scripture where God places the emphasis, as the Lord repeats a theme like this, we know that it is done for our good. The Bible says in verse four, *“Shew me...teach me.”* In verse five we read, *“Lead me.”* All through this psalm David says, *“I will wait on the Lord.”*

Looking back across my Christian life, one of the things that has helped me most is waiting on God. I once was on an airplane that could not land

due to inclement weather. People on the plane became extremely anxious. There was terrible weather, thunderstorms, and lightning flashing, and most people wanted to fly right into it and land. I said to the fellow sitting beside me, *“Let the pilot do his job and stay in this holding pattern. It is for our good.”* The pilot periodically spoke to us, saying, *“We are still in our holding pattern. We can’t get in. It is not safe to try to land in all of this.”* I am sure there were some folks in a real hurry who wanted to force their way through, but it was for our benefit that we were waiting.

There are so many times in life when we need to wait. God is able, but He knows that we are not ready and we are not able. Someone may come to you when you are in one of those “holding” patterns, and expect you to be running hard, pressing forward. He may ask, *“What are you doing? Why aren’t you...?”* Say to him, *“I am waiting on God.”*

There Is No Shame in Waiting

The Bible says, *“Let none that wait on thee be ashamed.”* There is no shame in waiting. In Psalm 37:7 the Bible says, *“Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him.”* The Lord is caring for us. We are to wait patiently for Him. We may be early, but God is not late.

There is nothing wrong with hard work and following direction. The Lord Jesus said, *“I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work”* (John 9:4). The longer I live, the more I learn that when I am not getting something done as quickly as I thought it should be done, God has a reason for the delay. Perhaps He delays me in order for me to meet an appointment that He has for me. Our delays become God’s opportunities to bring across our path His appointments.

You may have the idea that someone is getting ahead of you because you are waiting on God. Rest. Wait. Do not get your eyes on what others are doing and how fast they are moving. Do not worry that they may be getting ahead of you. Wait on the Lord!

In Psalm 40:1, the psalmist says, *“I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.”* When God repeats something, He does it for emphasis. Do parents ever tell their children something more than once? Of course they do. The Lord says again in Psalm 69:6, *“Let not them that wait on thee, O LORD GOD of hosts, be ashamed for my sake: let not those that seek thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel.”*

WAITING ON GOD BRINGS DELIVERANCE

In Exodus chapter fourteen, we find a famous story. Moses had been called upon to lead the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage. God sent Moses on a path that took him to the Red Sea.

There Is No Shame in Waiting

God placed Moses where it was humanly impossible for him to deliver himself and those following him.

The Bible says in Exodus 14:10-14,

And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD. And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness. And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

Waiting on God brings deliverance. We may be perplexed and think, “We have nothing but problems and no answers.” In this country, many of our social leaders are saying that we are a nation filled with many problems and no answers. If you will keep your ears and eyes open, you will realize from their perspective, that what they are saying is probably true. These issues are becoming so complicated that no man has the answer. God’s people are restlessly thinking, “What are we going to do? What is going to happen? Where are we going to go?”

When we are tempted to take matters into our own hands and to live the Christian life by force, God wants to teach us that He desires to work. When we wait on Him to work, He will bring deliverance.

There Is No Shame in Waiting

There have been many times I have been upset about something, and I have made the mistake of opening my mouth to confront the issue when I should have been praying. There were times, especially earlier in my life, when I thought that if I found something lacking, action needed to be taken immediately. I have learned that if I will pray and wait on God, He will bring deliverance and direction to the matter.

Is this His work or our work? It is His work; we are all just working in it until He takes us home. If it is His work and we are waiting on Him, He will bring deliverance. Memorize Exodus 14:14, *“The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.”*



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WAITING ON GOD BRINGS STRENGTH

In Isaiah 40:31 the Bible says, *“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”*

It is against our nature to wait on God. It is against our nature to pray. The old nature says, “I can handle this. Get out of the way. Turn me loose, and I will show you.” God says, “If you trust Me and wait on Me, I will strengthen you.” How many times have we run ahead of God, and then fallen on our faces? We discovered that we were not nearly as strong or as wise as we thought. Waiting on God brings strength.

There Is No Shame in Waiting

WAITING ON GOD BRINGS ENDURANCE

Many people start, but few finish. They do not stay in the race. Our country is cursed with people who started but did not continue. Think of the kind of churches we would have, what kind of spiritual leadership we would have, if everyone who started out for God was still in the race.

We all want to “sprint” our way through life. As a boy, I was asked to run the 880-yard race. I was accustomed to running 100- and 220-yard dashes. The coach wanted me to run the 880-yard race. He said, “Pace yourself.”

The way to stay in the race is to learn to wait on God. The Bible says, *“They shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”* Waiting on God brings endurance.

WAITING ON GOD BRINGS DIRECTION

Waiting can be like allowing dirt to settle in a glass of water. Once the dirt settles, the matter will be clarified. We can see more clearly what we should do if we wait. Waiting on God brings direction.

The Bible says in Proverbs 3:1, *“My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments.”* God makes a precept and gives a promise. The promise for that precept is, *“For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.”* Here is another precept: *“Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart.”* Here is the promise: *“So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.”*

There Is No Shame in Waiting

Here is another precept: *“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him.”* When we acknowledge the Lord and wait on Him, the Bible says, *“he shall direct thy paths.”*

Sometimes we need encouragement to wait. In the second church that I pastored, I became eager to find someone to be my assistant and to direct the music. I was preaching in a special meeting in a northern state, and I met a man who seemed to be the right person. He was great. I never saw anyone who could play so many musical instruments. He could sing. He could do it all. I said, “This is the man I need.” So I brought him in for a special series of meetings.

When the meetings were concluded, I asked our men how they felt about the fellow. These good men said, “Pastor, he is a nice fellow, but there is something just a little different about him.” I said, “But I would like to have him. He is going to help me.” One of the men suggested, “Why don’t we pray about it for one month? If you still feel as strongly about it after a month, then ask him to come. If you feel he should come now, ask him; but I think we should wait.” I respected that man’s counsel.

I waited on employing that man. During that month, he split the church in which he was serving and started a charismatic church. Needless to say, I went back to that deacon and thanked him for asking me to wait.

When we learn to wait on God, God will give us direction. Remember, *“Let none that wait on thee be ashamed.”*



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