**Jesus Teach Me Your Ways**

**by Pastor Fee Soliven**

**Psalm 86:11-13**

**Sunday Morning**

**March 7, 2021**

**Psalm 86:11-13**

11 Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name. 12 I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And I will glorify Your name forevermore. 13 For great is Your mercy toward me, And You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

**There are people who have faithfully attended church for many years, been baptized, and heard a multitude of sermons, yet have not understood how to live the Christian life!**

Saints, it’s not accomplished by self-effort but with complete reliance upon the Holy Spirit as He lives Christ’s life through us. One of the Holy Spirit’s jobs is to provide the guidance we need throughout life. However, there are times when we must patiently wait until He reveals what He would have us do.

**Isaiah 40:28-31**

28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. 29 He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength.

30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, 31 But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

Saints, patience doesn’t come naturally but is a gift from God bestowed on us as the fruit of His Spirit. It’s essential that we cooperate with the Holy Spirit as He develops patience within us, because this necessary quality can save us from the inevitable regrets that come when we refuse to wait for His direction.

**Consider what the following scriptures say about waiting for God:**

**Psalm 27:14**

“Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord”

**Psalm 37:7**

“Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him; do not get upset”

**Psalm 40:1**

“I waited patiently for the Lord; and He reached down to me and heard my cry.

**Patience can be defined in several ways:**

**1. Quiet, uncomplaining endurance under stress or annoyance!**

**2. Being good-tempered**

**3. Having the will to Wait**

**Why do we need patience?**

Saints, there are times when we must make decisions, but we don’t know what to do. If God gives us a check in our spirit, we should wait. But most of us are reluctant to delay the decision and want God to act on our timetable. This where this Scriptures comes to mind!

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Saints, we must remember that the Lord is omniscient and knows everything about us and our circumstances. If He wants us to wait, it’s because He knows what’s best.

**The Lord is our greatest protector!**

He created us to live for Him, serve Him, and reflect Him. Therefore, if what we desire doesn’t fit with His purpose or timing, we would be foolish to be impatient and insist on having it. When He says no, He is not rejecting us but protecting us.

**Psalm 91:1-16**

1 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust." 3 Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence.

4 He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler. 5 You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day, 6 Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.

7 A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you. 8 Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked. 9 Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, Even the Most High, your dwelling place,

10 No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; 11 For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. 12 In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. 13 You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

14 "Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. 15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. 16 With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation."

Saints, to benefit from God’s loving protection, we should consult Him about everything. But if we insist on having our own way, we are asking for trouble. In contrast, when we are patient, we’re able to calmly tolerate the delays that God places in our lives.

**Impatience results in the following mistakes!**

**Assumption**

If God delays in answering our requests, we assume we can go ahead with our plans, since He didn’t forbid it.

**Galatians 6:7**

“Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap”

**Misuse of Scripture**

At other times, we may try to manipulate God’s Word to get the answer we want. We’ll search through the Bible until we find a verse that seems to support our desires!

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**

16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

**Manipulation**

We could also try to manipulate the circumstances in order to justify our own actions. All these methods will only handicap our lives by sowing seeds of destruction. God has given us His Spirit of truth to guide us through all the complexities of life.

**John 16:13-15**

13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.

Listen Saints of God, when we don’t listen to Jesus, we could make a mess of our lives. If God says to wait, it’s because He loves us. All parents who love their children know that giving them everything they want immediately is not good for them.

**What is required in order to live obediently and patiently?**

**1. Faith in God**

We must believe that He will always direct us because He has promised to do so.

**Mark 11:22-23**

22 So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. 23 For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will come to pass, he will have whatever he says.

**2. A Spirit of Obedience**

To follow the Spirit’s guidance, we must be willing to obey God and wait patiently.

**1 John 5:3**

“For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome”

**3. Discernment of God’s Timing**

The Holy Spirit guides us regarding the proper timing for our requests, and if it’s not presently God’s will for us, He also gives us the grace to wait.

**Philippians 1:9-10**

9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,

**4. Love for God**

Obedience to the Lord is proof of our love for Him because our hearts are bent toward Him, and we are willing to wait for as long as necessary. But when we are impatiently determined that a situation work out the way we desire, we are not demonstrating love for the Lord but for ourselves, others, or things. In contrast, God shows His love for us by withholding from us what we selfishly desire because it is not what’s best.

**1 Samuel 15:22-23**

22 “….Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. 23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry…”

**1 John 4:8**

“Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love”

**5. Courage**

Sometimes it takes courage to obey God and patiently wait for Him to direct our path. We may start to feel desperate, as if we are coming to the edge of a cliff and are about to fall off, but almighty God is always there by our side.

**Joshua 1:9**

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

**6. Determination to Wait**

**Psalm 32:8**

“I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will advise you with My eye upon you.”

When we refuse to heed godly counsel and plunge ahead in impatience, the outcome will never be what we intend. Waiting for as long as necessary until God in His wisdom tells us what to do is always a wiser approach.

**Why is patience essential to experiencing God’s best?**

**1. It’s essential to a life of obedience to God**

We must listen, obey Him, and at times give up our own personal desires and opinions in order to wait for His direction.

**Isaiah 30:18**

“Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him”

**2. It’s essential to building good relationships with other people.**

Patience is a quality that improves all our relationships because it graciously overlooks others’ mistakes.

**Galatians 5:22**

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness”

**3. It’s essential because timing is very important!**

The Holy Spirit will give us clear direction but not always immediately. If we truly treasure God’s wisdom, we will patiently wait for Him to reveal His will.

**Habakkuk 2:3**

“For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay:

**4. It’s essential for seeing God at work in the situation!**

When He finally brings it to a conclusion, we will be able to see how He worked it all out and will be so thankful that we waited. We don’t have to live in the doubt and uncertainty that come with relying on our own wisdom.

**1 Corinthians 15:58**

“Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain”

God saved us for His purposes and will give us guidance if we ask for it. But we must be careful not to think He is late if He doesn’t act when we think He should. God is always right on time; we’re the ones whose timing is off. The wisest action is to patiently trust God, wait, and watch to see what He will do.

**1. Would your family or co-workers describe you as a patient person?**

**2. How does your character, conduct, and conversation display either patience or impatience?**

**3. What kinds of thoughts cause you to be impatient?**

**4. In contrast, what truths about God could you dwell upon to build a foundation for patience and trust in Him?**

Saints, Soon and Very soon, Jesus is about to appear, we are almost out of here!

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**1 Corinthians 15:50-54**

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

**Short Movie Slide>**

**Acts 2:38-39**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**Let’s Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace.” In Jesus Name!**