

# WAITING ON THE LORD SERIES

## DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF WAITING

Isa. 40:31 *But they who wait for 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.*

The word *wait* in the English bible comes from different Hebrew words. Only one of them is the word *wait* as we read in Isa. 40:31. The word *wait* is from the Hebrew word "*qavah*". The word *qavah* is a Hebrew word that has been translated *wait* in Isa. 40:31 and in Isa. 49:23. It has a special meaning by itself.

There are many Hebrew words for *wait* while the English bible has only one word. There is a Hebrew word *wait* from the word "*chakah*". That Hebrew word *chakah* means to **look earnestly towards something**, earnestly expecting. However that is not the word *wait* in Isa. 40:31.

Then there is another word *wait* in Hebrew "*dumiyyah*". The word *dumiyyah* means to **wait silently**. Obviously that is not what the Lord meant in Isa. 40:31. Otherwise He would have used the word *dumiyyah*. Some people when they read Isa 40: 31 in English they have the word *dumiyyah* in mind. They think that God means to wait on Him silently. That is not what the Lord talks about waiting quietly. He used the word *qavah*.

The other word for wait is the word "*daman*". That word means to **stand still**.

There is a Hebrew word for wait "*psaba*". The word *psaba* means to **serve like a waiter** waiting to take orders. But that is not the word for Isa. 40:31.

The Holy Spirit have chosen only one *qavah*. The word *qavah* as we have it in Isa. 40:31 is only used in other places in a strong sense of being **gathered together onto God**.

Let me give an illustration of 2 verses to bring forth the meaning of the word *qavah*.

*Jer.3:17 At that time Jerusalem shall be called the throne of the Lord, and all nations shall gather to it, to the presence of the Lord in Jerusalem, they shall no more stubbornly follow their own evil hearts.*

All the nations of the world shall be gathered together *qavah* onto Him. So the word wait is used to mean gather together. It is not an ordinary gathering. It is a gathering where you are brought into oneness together. When you come together to worship the Lord today, you are *qavah* before the Lord. As we gathered in oneness together is *qavah*. It is a Hebrew word that means stronger than gathering. In the English when you talk about gathering it could be gathering loosely. For example, I could gather some bricks and put them together, the bricks will still look horrifying. It will be one big pile of bricks. But I could take those bricks and gather them together in order where I could build a wall and put one brick on the top of the other in a systematic order. Then the bricks are gathered together in an orderly form. They are gathered in a kind of bond together.

The word *qavah* in the Hebrew means to gather together in oneness, to be bound together. Whenever we gather together as one we are *qavah* before the Lord. It expresses a greater sense of gathering than just coming together. It expresses union.

People can be gathered together but have no unity. This gathering expresses union.

In Gen. 1:9 *And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so.* God said let the waters be bound together, be brought together in one place. That is the word waiting, the word *qavah* express. When the bible says but those who *qavah* before the Lord, the expression is being gathered in oneness with the Lord. We may be *qavah* together but for you to be *qavah* with the Lord is something else. So Isa. 40:31 takes place when you are bound together with the Lord. The Hebrew word expresses like a vine or a plant that is twined together in the Lord, like the ropes that are twined together until it becomes one solid rope.

That is the fullness of the word waiting. It not just coming to serve Him. I believe in serving the Lord. But I believe we are called to just be His. The most important in Christian life is not just doing; its being. We are called to be a witness and just to do witnessing. The problem is people catch the doing part without the being part. We must remember that every disciple of Jesus has 2 commandments. The first commandment is come and the second is go. When the young Christian comes to know the Lord, they think that there is one commandment: *go, go*. The first commandment is *come and follow Me*. The first call is to come, come and be with the Lord. Come and be in His presence. Then you have a testimony to share. Then you have something to witness to.

So when we wait on the Lord is not just to serve Him. It is to come and say, "Lord what are we to do next? Please speak to me; I love to serve you."

Neither did God ask us to come and wait on Him earnestly expecting something. That is Heb. 11:6 *And without faith it is impossible to please Him. For whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.* The word for looking earnestly upon God and expecting something is more in our English sense found in the word *seek* rather than in the word *wait*. There is a difference between coming to seek the Lord and coming to wait on the Lord as Isa. 40:31 says.

To wait earnestly is the Hebrew word *chakah*. It expresses earnestly waiting for the things of the Lord. This is found in Isa. 64:4, Hab.2:3, is to look earnestly to the Lord. Expecting something, looking to Him with hope. Seeking Him; expecting His reward.

What we want to see in Isa. 40:31 is that they use a special word *qavah* which means that you do not come to God to serve Him. Neither do you come to Him to expect something. The word *qavah* means to wait on Him in order to be bound together with Him. That is the reason you came. In Isa. 40:31 is to come to be bound with Him.

I read a lot of the early saints who lived about 200 years ago. Those olden saints have developed the art of waiting. They would come to God and would wait for hours. Their focus every time they come before God was to allow God to transform him and let him be transformed into the image of God. That expresses the fullness of the word *wait*. It is to be transformed to be like Him so that you are like Him and His image is in you. That is the purpose of waiting: to give Him time to form us.

Another old saint expressed it this way. Coming to God to wait on Him is like the clay coming to God and being pliable allowing Him to mould you in any way. The moulding does not take place outside in the circumstances of life. The moulding takes place in His presence. That is the purpose of waiting to allow Him to mould you, to sharpen you. And through waiting on Him you are transformed into the perfect image that He can be one with. He can be bound to you. When you wait on God the next time seek to do that. Seek to be bound, entwine together with the Lord. That is all we should seek.

The strongest mode of the whole ministry of Jesus is His union with the Father. Everything else proceeds from God. All His teaching came from His union with the Father. He said that the word that I speak onto you are not my word but the Father who speaks in me. All His works including the marvelous miracles that He

performed came out with His union with the Father. He said that the works that I do is not I who do it but the Father in me. It is His union with the Father that is unique in His life and ministry. Unless we emphasized union with God we will have a shallow type of Christianity. Modern Christianity has emphasized on the doing part.

Few hundred years ago the Christianity emphasized on the union part, the going deeper into God part. That is where Christian monarchy flourished hundred of years ago. What we need is a combination of both. We have an equal emphasis on union with God and the clearcut teaching on how to do His work.

The disadvantage of the earlier Christians is that they got the wrong teaching. They thought sickness was from God. And they don't understand much about the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which were rarely operated. And a lot of teachings that we have today were not available to them. However that God is perfecting the church. Every truth that He has brought throughout the corridors of time in church history needs to be brought into the fullness in the last days. They did discover some things too. They discovered deep things in the Lord like contemplation. Things that you never heard of today. Some of them could contemplate for hours. They just sit in a dark room and contemplate things that modern Christians do not know. We seek to combine all the fullness of it.

The key to waiting on God is to be bound to Him. You seek nothing else but to be one with Him. It is like tuning our spirit, soul and body to Him. Every musical instrument needs a tuning once in a while. In the process of use it gets slightly out of tune. And so you need a regular tuning. In the same manner we all need to be one with God. We need to learn the secret of union with Him. From time to time during the affairs of life you may forget about Him. Then you have to recall again the word of God.

The other word we have to look very carefully in Isa. 40:31 is the word *renew*. That those who *qavah* on the Lord will renew their strength. Something takes place at the renewal. I have listed 4 things that take place under the word *renew*. The word

renew is from the Hebrew word "*charath*". The word *charath* has 4 different meanings. When you think of renew you just think give me more strength. There is more to that. The word *charath* has been used in Isa. 2:18 *And the idols shall utterly pass away*. But the idols he shall utterly abolished. The word *abolished* is the word *charath*.

In Jud. 5:26 *She put her hand to the tent peg and her right hand to the workman's mallet; she struck Sisera a blow, she crushed his head, she shattered and pierced his temple*. The word pierced and struck to his temple is the word *charath*.

That is the first aspect of what God does to you when you wait on Him. He **abolishes the idols in your life**. He removes, He cleanse, He breaks all those thing in your life that need to be broken away from you as you wait upon Him. The word of God is like a hammer. And as you wait upon Him He takes a hammer. And here you are saying, "God I love to be one with you; its lovely. Lord I want to be bound." God replies, "Before you can be one with me lets get rid of those things."

One aspect of the word *renew* is that you have to get rid of all those wrong things. God pierces your inner most being. One of the things that a sinner finds very hard to do is to sit alone. Whenever they sit alone their conscience is too loud for them to bear. One of the things that waiting on God does is that it builds an inner strength in your life. People who cannot sit down quietly alone are people who are very insecure themselves. They are like a building who have not gone through reinforcement. All structural engineers will tell you that before they allow a building to come up, they have to calculate the stress and strain that the building will go through. So basing on their calculation, they will have to reinforce the concrete. Sometimes if it is a concrete structure, they put steel bars inside and pour the concrete in according to the estimated stress and strain. In the same way people who have no reinforcement within them need to go through some spiritual restructuring. They need to engineer something into their spirit and soul by the Spirit of God.

People with strong spirit are one with the Lord and they are able to dwell alone.

Not many people can stand being alone. So whenever there is any incidence that can hurt other people that will cause them to reject you, you go overboard to try to please them. Or the other way happen that when people hurt you, you feel rejected. You can't stand rejection because you are afraid of being alone.

Why are you afraid of being alone? Because you have to face up to your own self. You need some hammer to break you. You need something to be broken in your life. Jesus could stand rejection without any problem. He was rejected by the Jews. He was rejected by His disciples who forsook Him. He was rejected by the Roman people. He was rejected everywhere. He went right to the cross and at the cross His love was poured out.

To be alone is not necessary to be lonely. Loneliness is a melancholy of your soul. But alone is a strength that you need. Lets look at the positive aspect. If you have an inner strength in you and you know how to stand alone, you could approach people man to man woman to woman, eye ball to eye ball and you are not afraid if they reject you. Neither are you afraid if they hurt you. So what kind of relationship will you go for? You will form a better kind of relationship. You will be able to relate with people the way God wants you to relate. It is an unhealthy relationship if someone dominates you or if you dominate someone. People who do that are insecure with themselves.

Where do we get that inner strength? Waiting on God. And God will abolish all those things from your life. That is the first thing that takes place. That is not renewal yet.

The second thing that takes place is the word *change*. The word *renew* has a meaning of the word *exchange*. For example, from the word just restored. The word *renew* does not convey the meaning of *restore*. In our English vocabulary and definition of the word *renew*, the word *renew* has a stronger meaning of *restore* rather than to *renovate* or to *replace*. And the Hebrew word *kalak* means to exchange. That is stronger than the ordinary use of the word *refresh*. It is just like you send your car for servicing. What the mechanic does is just change the oil and makes

sure that every thing is clean and then he will send it back to you. What do you have? You just had a good service.

Renew is not sending your spirit, soul and body for servicing. Renewal is stronger than that. It is just like your car is old and the engine is wearing out. Then you send in your car for a brand new engine. What you did is give your car a heart transplant. That is what the word renew is. It involves an exchange. The word *renew* involves you **exchange your strength for God's strength**. That is why the word in Isa. 40:31 tells us *they shall run and not be weary. They shall walk and not faint. Why, they are not going by ordinary strength. Even the young run and are weary.* If you refresh your strength, when you run you can still be weary. But if you exchange your strength for the Lord's strength you will run and never be weary because God's strength never runs out.

Let me give some scriptures for the word exchange. It is from the same word that is used to change clothes *kalak*. Gen. 35:2 *So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Put away the foreign gods that are among you, and purify yourselves and change your garments, ( or kalak your garments).* Jacob was having a spiritual household cleaning. There was a revival taking place in his household. He told all of them. If there are any idols in your house get rid of them. Change your clothes, clean yourselves up and put on new clothes. That is *kalak*. When you change your clothes you are not going to have your clothes dusted. You take off your old one and you put on a new one. That is what the word renew or *kalak* means in Isa. 40:31. Take off your strength and you put on God's strength.

Gen. 41:14 *Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon; and when he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before Pharaoh.*

In II Sam. 12:20 *Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the Lord and worshipped; he then went to his own house; and when he asked, they set food before him, and he ate.*



Ps. 102:26 *They will perish, but thou dost endure; they will all wear out like a garment. Thou changest them like raiment, and they pass away.*

The word change always speaks of replacing a garment. In Psalms it talked about the replacement of a spiritual garment, spiritual strength. One aspect of the word *kalak* is changing into special clothes. For example, every day before you go to your office you do change into your working clothes. And when you come back you may change from your working clothes to your house clothes. That is a daily affair that you do. But when there is a wedding or some big occasion, you change but you do more than change. You have an extra shave, ladies have an extra perm. You change but your change is extra special. The word *kalak* refers to that second type of change. It is not just that ordinary change that you do everyday.

Look at all those verses that I have given you: the change is a special one. Jacob spoke to his whole household. It was a special occasion. He was bringing the people back onto God. Look at people like Joseph. Everyday while he was working in the prison he still changed his clothes. But that day he was called before the Pharaoh it was a special day. He had to come before Pharaoh. So when he changed it was a real special change. He can't put on his prison garment and come before the king. He had to take off all those and put on a real nice set of clothing. And one of the factors is usually it's new. This is before Pharaoh. They specially get new clothes for him. Look at king David there was contrast. He did a special change. He washed himself and anointed with oil and he changed his clothes. Then he went to worship the Lord. It's a special change not an ordinary change.

And the word renew means to exchange. Exchange in a very special way where God gives you a special new garment. There is one species of eagle that has to change its feathers as a snake change its skin in cycle. So when the cycle come you renew yourself like the eagle. What the eagle does is that it usually flies up the mountain. And it takes its beaks and he pulls his own feathers. It is very painful, that is the first part of *kalak*, it is very painful. He will do that until he looks like a turkey ready for cooking. Then he will rest and he will wait. Then through time a new set of feathers would grow. When he had finished that waiting period, the new

feathers had grown. This is not just old feathers being washed and cleaned. This is new feathers being grown. And he will take off in his new wings.

That is what it's like. You exchange new strength. You don't just refresh yourself with the waiting on God. You exchange your weaknesses for His strength. You exchange your old ways for His new ways. You exchange your old thoughts for His new thoughts. You exchange your old vision for His new vision. You exchange all your weariness for His supernatural power. You exchange all your limitation for His supernatural infinity. The key word is exchange. When you *qavah* with the Lord you get *kalak* with the Lord. When you wait on the Lord you renew your strength.

Number 3 the word *kalak* means to **go forward**. There is a fresh impetus in your life. You are able to go forward with new vigor.

That is found in I Sam. 10:3 *Then you shall go on from there further and come to the oak of Tabor; three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you there, one carrying three kids, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a skin of wine.*

This is the story of Saul and Samuel. Samuel the prophet was prophesying that Saul would be king. And as a confirmation of that prophecy he was saying Saul along the way you will see something. He described all those things in verse 2 you will see some men coming to you and all those things shall happen. He says when you have departed from me you will see 2 men and afterwards you shall go forward, you shall change in such a way that your direction is a different way. That is the word *wait*. For that reason I described in my book on The Anointing of the Holy Spirit how God works in phases. He does not reveal everything to you otherwise you cannot take it. And in every phase there is a change. It may change because God may have a different way for you to move in that anointing. Or God may want you to operate different gifts in your life.

For Kenneth E. Hagin he changed from his hands to his eyes seeing in the spirit. So we have to be sensitive to the change of direction. And the only way you can

change is by spending time continually waiting on God. The Lord also spoke to Kenneth Hagin and said many of His people do not wait on Him. That is in his first vision. He saw the Lord in his first vision that is about after 15 years in the ministry. Then the Lord told him you will enter the first phase of the ministry. He said first phase I have been 15 years what have I been doing. 15 years he has not even entered the first phase. Then the Lord said many of my people, some are my ministers leave and die without entering the first phase, because they don't wait on Him.

When you learn to wait on Him. He could speak to you. When you are bound with Him, He could whisper to you. The reason why people are not obedient to the Lord is because they don't wait on Him. This is not only applicable in ministry. If you are a child of God you have God's plan for your life whether in the ministry or in the business world outside or in your working place. Your life is planned by phases. You have to all the time keep coming to God and bind yourself with Him to be on track in what you are doing. Even in the business there will be phases. The only way you will detect the change and the change of faith and the direction is by binding yourself with the Lord and waiting on Him. And that is one of the word *kalak* you will renew yourself. You will have a new sense of direction to go forward to.

Ps. 90:5-6 *Thou sweep men away; they are like a dream, like grass which is renewed in the morning; in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.* The word grow up in verse 5 and 6 is the word *kalak*. The grass that grows up. The word *kalak* speaks about growing.

The word renew take place in 4 areas; 1, abolishment, removal; 2, exchange changing of your strength for His strength; 3, new direction going forward; they shall mount up their wings like eagle. Eagle has an eagle vision. If you wait on God you can mount up. If you don't wait on God you are tied to this earth. You are a chicken; chicken can't fly. When you are an eagle you could fly up the mountain.

Number 3 was in vision and Number 4 is to grow up. We all continually grow in

Him. And the time that you spent in being bound to the Lord, Jesus said if you abide in me and my word abide in you, you shall bear much fruit. As you abide in Him you could draw more nourishment. And by drawing more nourishment you could bear fruit.

Even Ps. 1 talked about a tree planted by the river of waters. The remarkable thing about the tree is that it is planted by the rivers of water it will grow further than the tree that is planted in the rocky ground. If you are a tree planted by the water you have resources in God. You can grow further. You have seen the Japanese miniature tree called bonsai. They take a huge tree whether from the seed or the branch and they plant it in those pots. That tree doesn't have a chance. It could have been meant to be a hundred feet tall. But some joker has planted it in a tiny pot and keep cutting away its taproots. And it grows up into a dwarf. It was not meant to be. It was meant to live in the forest tall and mighty. One of the art of growing bonsai is they have to trim the roots once in a while. They trim the roots so they can't draw nourishment. When you can't draw nourishment you will be a bonsai Christian. You are meant to be in the forest of God and there you are sitting in a tiny pot. In a worldly pot and the world looks at you and say, "Cute little Christian never make us angry, never witness to us." You are not meant to be that. You are meant to be in the forest of God mighty with your branches stretched out so that the birds of the air could find refuge in you. That is what it does to you: it makes you grow up. That is in the word *kalak*.