

Shelf Life:

Waiting Well in the Waiting Time

I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD.

Psalm 27:13-14

1. Shelf Life Struggles (verse 13).
2. How You Can Drive Away Discouragement (verse 13).
3. Know What You're Waiting For (Verse 14).
4. How You Can Wait Well (verse 14).

“Between here and heaven, we have no guarantee that the road will be easy or the sea smooth. We have no promise that we will be kept like flowers in a house, safe from the breath of frost or veiled from the heat of the sun. The voice of wisdom says, ‘Be patient, be patient, be patient, for you may need a triple measure of it to be ready for the trial.’”

~Charles Spurgeon

If we act only because our path is clear of difficulty, this is not Faith. Faith acts upon God's Word whatever the difficulty; and to walk by faith brings highest glory to God. ~R. C. Chapman

"God is too just to wrong me, and too gracious to harm me, and therefore I will be still and quiet; let Him do what He will with me." ~Thomas Brooks

"And now, Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You." Psalm 39:7

"Faith keeps the castle of the heart that it does not yield. It is not being tempted that makes a man guilty, but giving consent. Faith enters its protest against Satan. Faith not only does not yield, but beats back the temptation. Faith holds the promise in one hand and Christ in the other. The promise encourages faith and Christ strengthens it; so faith beats the enemy out of the field. In all temptations go to God by prayer. 'Lord, teach me to use every piece of the spiritual armor—how to hold the shield, how to wear the helmet, how to use the sword of the Spirit. Lord, strengthen me in the battle; let me rather die a conqueror than be taken prisoner and led by Satan in triumph.'" ~Thomas Watson

Frances Ridley Havergal wrote, "Did you ever hear of anyone being very much used for Christ who did not have some special waiting time, some complete upset of all his or her plans?" From *Fifty People Every Christian Should Know*.

Only two choices on the shelf:
pleasing God, or pleasing self.
If self you choose, you will lose.
If God's your choice, you will rejoice.
~Unknown

"He is in a particular manner good to those that wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. Note, while trouble is prolonged, and deliverance is deferred, we must patiently wait for God and his gracious returns to us. While we wait for him by faith, we must seek him by prayer: our souls must seek him, else we do not seek so as to find. Our seeking will help to keep up our waiting. And to those who thus wait and seek God will be gracious; he will show them his marvelous lovingkindness." ~Matthew Henry

"God's time is always the best time. To deliver us just now might be to deprive us of the benefit of the trouble. We must bear it until it produces "the peaceful fruit of righteousness." ~Charles Spurgeon

"It is good (it is our duty, and will be our unspeakable comfort and satisfaction) to hope and quietly to wait for the salvation of the Lord, to hope that it will come, though the difficulties that lie in the way of it seem insupportable, to wait till it does come, though it be long delayed, and while we wait to be quiet and silent, not quarreling with God nor making ourselves uneasy, but acquiescing in the divine disposals. Father, thy will be done. If we call this to mind, we may have hope that all will end well at last." ~Matthew Henry

"This does not express doubt as to whether GOD be willing to receive the penitent, but the penitent's doubt as to himself; he whispers to himself this consolation, "Perhaps there may be hope for me." ~Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown

"These words do not express hesitation and doubt, but hope and expectation of help, to bear the yoke of God's commandments, and in due time to be delivered from affliction and distress." ~John Gill