



Connecting People to **Jesus**

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Friday, October 21, 2022

Pastor Eric Jay

Prayer: Heavenly Father, You have remained perfectly faithful to Your promises given so long ago. Through generations of bearing patiently with a sinful world and sinful people, You have proven again and again that those who trust in You will not be put to shame. Father as we turn now ourselves to those same words and promises You have given, and that we now see fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Your Son, our Lord Jesus, strengthen us and keep us firm and steadfast in the one true faith until life everlasting with You. Amen.

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

Devotional – “Wait”

What witnesses is Hebrews referring to here? All of the many witnesses and saints recounted in chapter 11 just before our text, that have lived and died before us, and who now still live and surround the throne of God even though they have died because they lived believing in the promises of God, leaning their whole weight on the promise of a Savior; a Savior that has come in Jesus Christ. Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Rahab, Gideon, Barak, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and so many others. When we remember God’s faithfulness to them as we read their true stories in the Bible, then we are strengthened and encouraged to surrender all to Christ as they did, resting in what God has done to deliver us just as He delivered them.

When we read the stories in the Bible of the cloud of witnesses, we are encouraged and strengthened not by the strength and courage of the witnesses, but by the faithfulness, mercy, and power of the God they lived their lives witnessing to. They walked with God, why may not you and I? We can, and only because the same God is with us and has revealed Himself to us in Jesus, who now sustains us in His promises and in His Word just as He did the saints before us who leaned their whole weight on the Word of God. Jesus invites all of us to do the same when He says in Matthew 11, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

All throughout the Scriptures we are called to wait on the Lord. Two well known passages are Isaiah 40:31 and Psalm 27:14.

*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. – Isaiah 40:31*

*Wait for the Lord;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord! – Psalm 27:14*

“Wait for the Lord”: it means to put your *weight* on the Lord, to lean fully on Him, and to rest fully in Him even when we are tempted to take matters into our own hands, instead trusting in His time and in His way and in His Word.

Wait on the Lord my friends, and lean your whole weight on Jesus, remembering that God has forgiven yesterday, is with you today, and has already taken care of tomorrow. Amen.