

SEASONS: WAITING

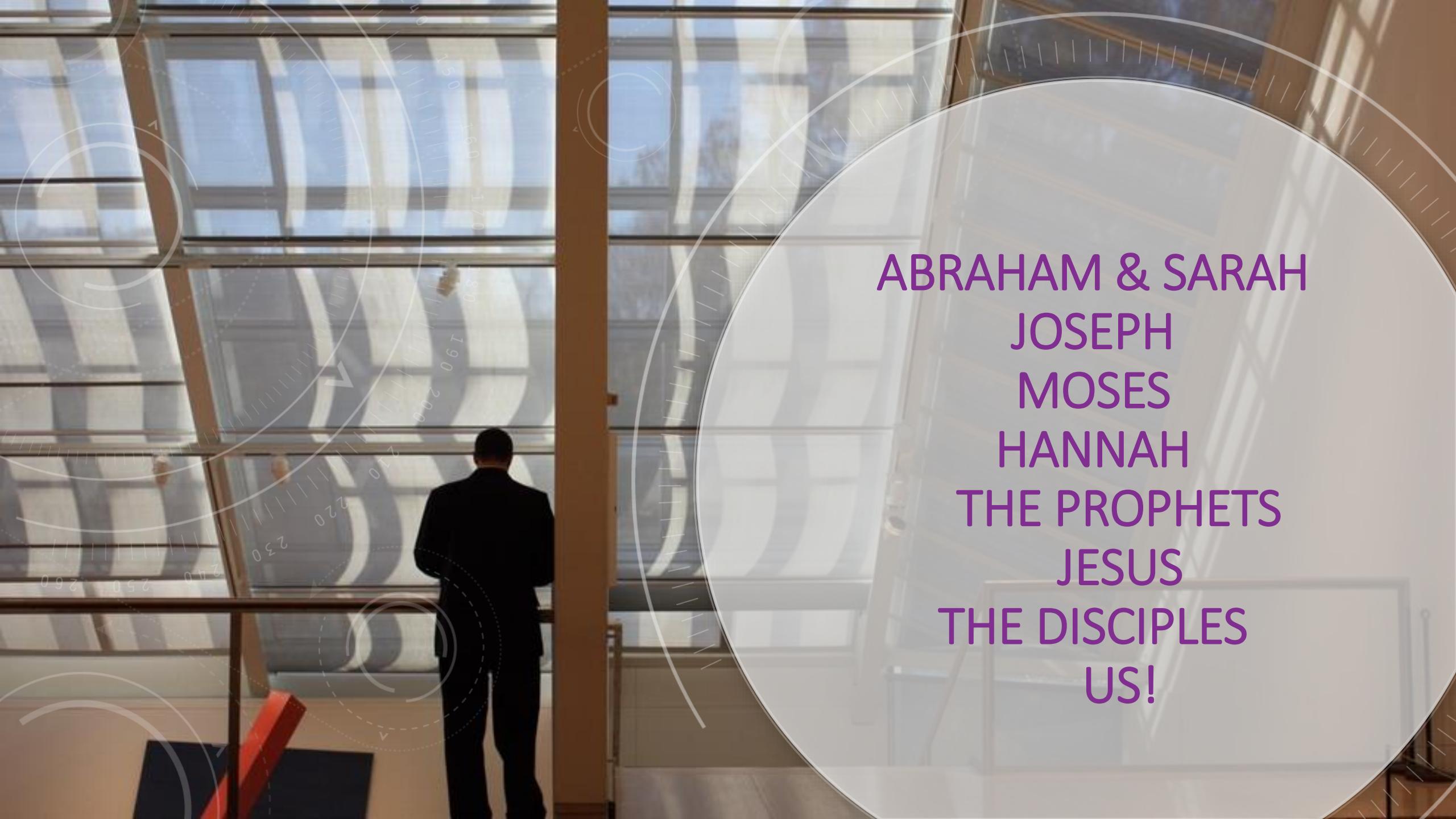
‘There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens’

(Ecclesiastes 3)





WAITING



ABRAHAM & SARAH
JOSEPH
MOSES
HANNAH
THE PROPHETS
JESUS
THE DISCIPLES
US!

WAITING ISN'T ALWAYS THE SAME



The British are famed for their
love of waiting!

- Planned or expected
- Uncertain
- Painful
- Jesus' return

Waiting, - or learning to wait
– is a part of God's plan for
us.



HOW DO WE WAIT WELL?

- Waiting on God is not a passive thing



He is with us in the waiting





HE GIVES US PROMISES

- *Not one of all the Lord's good promises to Israel failed; every one was fulfilled.* (Joshua 21:45)
- *Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.* (Heb 10:23)
- *'For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.'* (2 Cor 1.20)

UNCERTAIN WAITING 1

Waiting for a personal promise to be fulfilled

- Revisit what he has said
- Bring it before him; ask him to speak to you about it.
- Ask trusted friends for insight.



*“Trust in the Lord
and do good;
dwell in the land
and cultivate
faithfulness.”*
(Ps 37)

UNCERTAIN WAITING 2

Waiting when things are unclear

Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.' (Ecc 9.10)

Ask yourself:

- What light has already come that I may be missing?
- Look for the good, the positive.

‘I am watching to see that
my word is fulfilled.’
(Jer 1.12)





PAINFUL WAITING

*Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up.
(Lk 18.1-8)*

*'Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;
say to those with fearful hearts,
"Be strong, do not fear; your
God will come" (Is. 35:3-4a)*

JESUS' RETURN

Be ready; full of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, able to bring his light and fire wherever we are.

