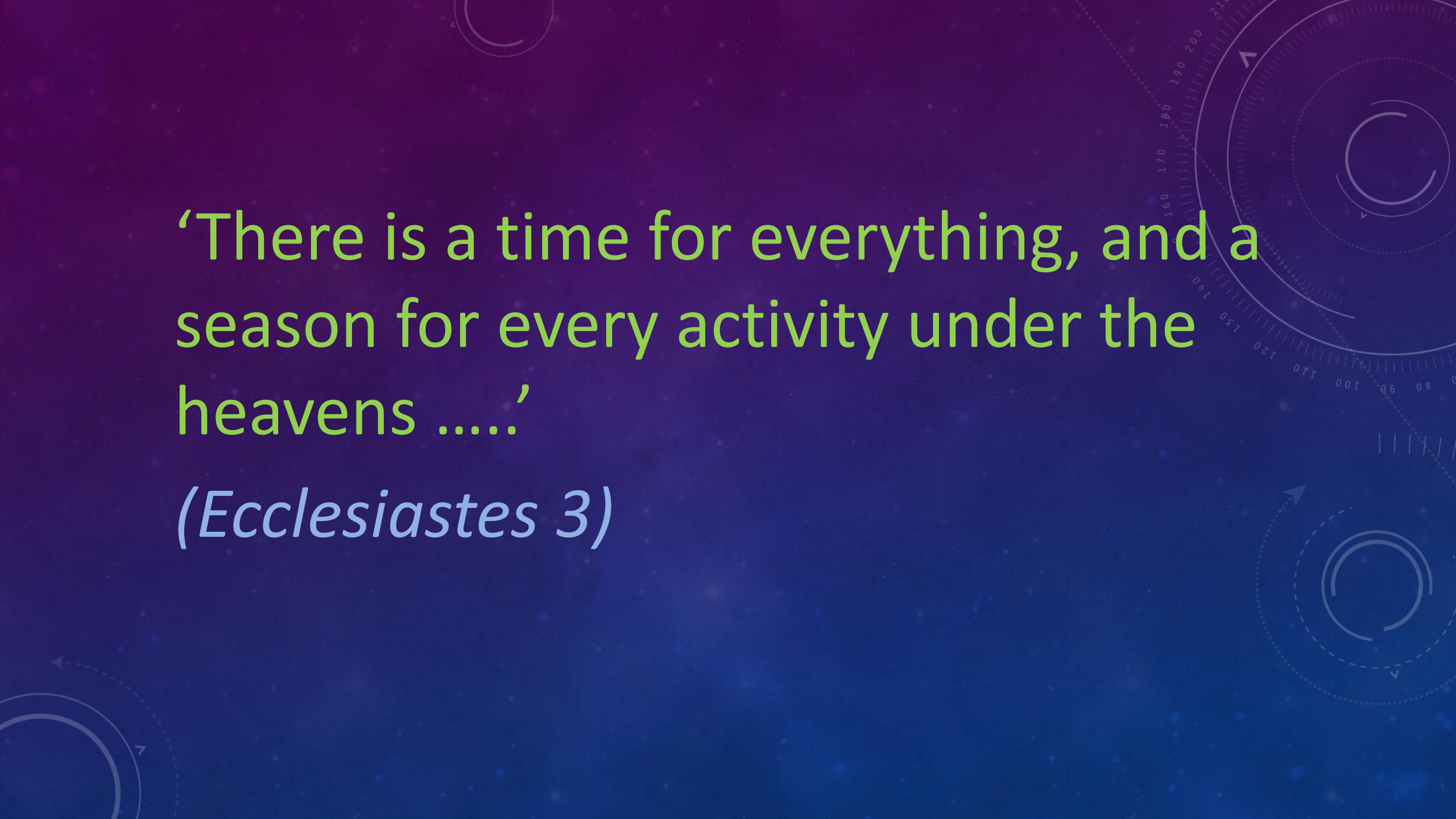


The background is a gradient from dark purple at the top to deep blue at the bottom, speckled with white dots resembling stars. Overlaid on this are several faint, white circular and semi-circular patterns. Some of these patterns include tick marks and numbers, suggesting a circular scale or clock face. For example, one large arc on the left has numbers 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, and 260. Other smaller arcs and dashed lines with arrows are scattered across the image, creating a sense of motion and geometry.

# SEASONS: WAITING

The background is a deep blue gradient with a starry sky effect. Overlaid on this are faint, white, stylized celestial diagrams. In the top right, there is a large circular diagram with concentric circles and radial lines, resembling a celestial sphere or a clock face with degree markings. In the bottom right, there is a smaller circular diagram with concentric circles and a dashed line. In the bottom left, there is a partial circular diagram with a dashed line and an arrow. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

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

*(Ecclesiastes 3)*



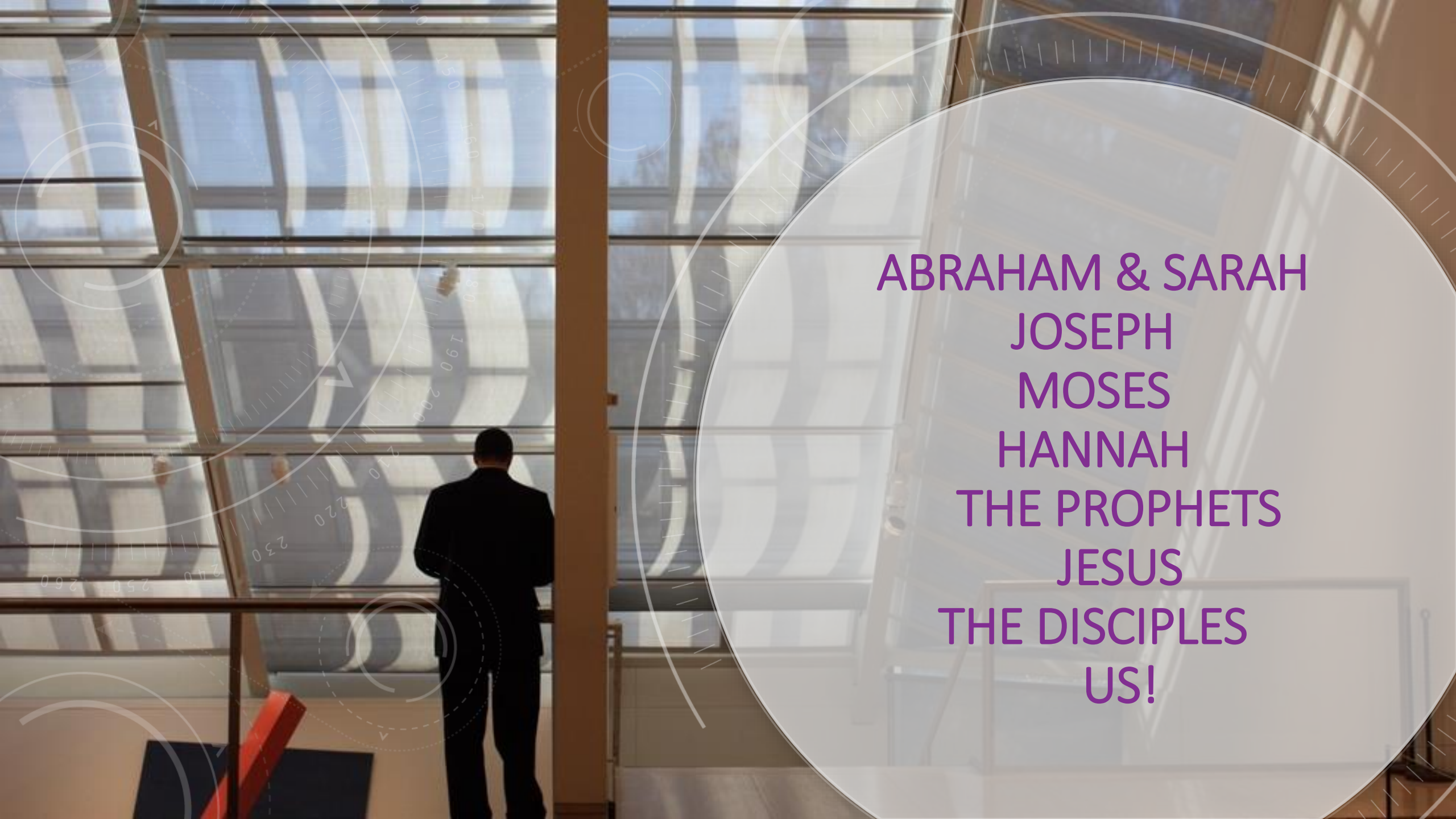


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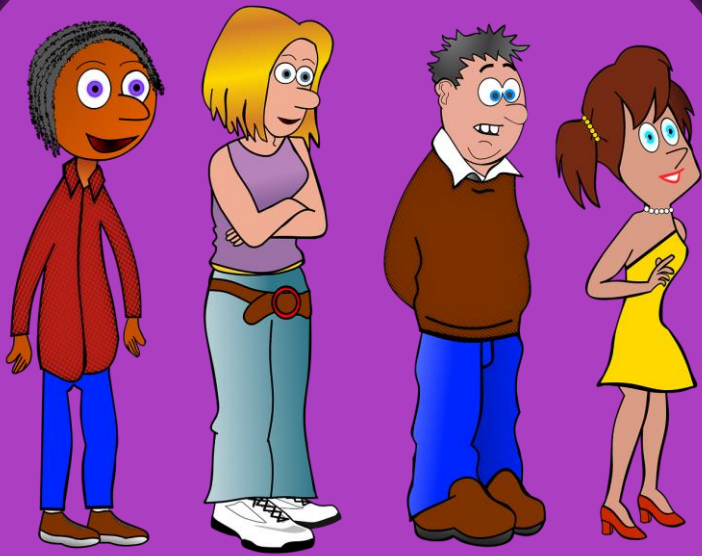
WAITING .....

A man in a dark suit stands with his back to the camera, looking out a large, multi-paned window. The window reflects the sky and the building's structure. Overlaid on the image are several white, semi-transparent circular and linear graphic elements, including concentric circles, dashed lines, and numerical scales (e.g., 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, 260) that suggest a technical or architectural theme. On the right side, a large, light-colored circular area contains a list of names in purple capital letters.

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.

