



Sunday December 12, 2021
I Waited Patiently

I Waited Patiently, where we will look at Psalm 40, and draw some insights from David, as he waited patiently for God to work things out in his life. We will learn why God keeps us waiting. We will discover what God is doing while we are waiting, and what we are to do during this time of waiting. We will be encouraged to know that God will come through and change things according to what He has promised.

PSALM 40

Read through Psalm 40, A Psalm of David

For our study we have divided the Psalm into 3 portions: 40:1-5, 40:6-11, 40:12-17

The first portion 40:1-5 is an overview, a summary of David's entire experience, start to finish.

The middle portion 40:6-11 is what he did while going through the waiting period.

The last portion 40:12-17 is a reflection, a looking back at his emotions, his struggles while going through what he went through.

As we study this Psalm, we will look at the first (40:1-5) and last portion (40:12-17) together, since the last portion gives details on what caused the difficulties, etc.

Then we will look at the middle portion 40:6-11, where we learn what the David did while he waited patiently.

Our goal today is not an academic dissection of the Psalm, but to make a personal journey through this Psalm, and draw spiritual lessons that we can walk in, as we learn to wait patiently for the Lord.

I WAITED PATIENTLY

1 I waited patiently for the LORD; ...

We do not know for certain when this Psalm was written or what specific situations David was going through when he wrote this Psalm. So, anything said along these lines would be just a guess.



David found himself in a situation where he had to wait patiently. We know that this was not an easy thing to do. He waited. But sometimes impatiently.

We see him state in later verses of this Psalm:

13 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me!

17 But I am poor and needy; Yet the LORD thinks upon me. You are my help and my deliverer; Do not delay, O my God.

We do believe in supernatural, instantaneous miracles. Things that happen in a moment. Healings and deliverances that happen suddenly. This is wonderful. The Bible does say “now is the appointed time, now is the day of salvation” (2 Corinthians 6:2).

And, then we cannot deny that there are things that happen gradually. Slowly. Over time. God works both ways. He does the ‘suddenly’ and He also does the ‘gradually’.

We are born again and become new creation in an instant, but we are changed and transformed gradually from glory to glory.

The fact is we all can get “impatient” with God when He is working ‘gradually’ in our lives. We can start wondering ‘why is God taking so long to come through for me?’. There could be so many different scenarios:

- Fulfilling of a vision, purpose –
- Healing –
- Finances –
- Family situation –
- Job situation –
- Finding your life partner –
- Some other matter –

We tend to pray like David ‘hurry up and help me God’, ‘don’t be too slow O God’.

What is God achieving when He seems to be taking time, and keeps us waiting patiently?

We will point to one important insight in Scripture:

James 1:2-4

2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.



4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

The word 'trials' refers to difficulties, challenges, adversities and temptations. Things we all face as we journey through life.

When we 'fall into', find ourselves in the pit, we need to know this.

Vs 3: 'knowing'.....know this, that this is a test of your faith...or this is the way faith is tested or proved 'trustworthy'.

When faith is tested and we stand firm in faith through time, it develops patience (endurance, perseverance, steadfastness, persistence, tenacity, resilience).

And if we allow patience to have its perfect work, that is, run its full course, do a thorough work in us, then we will be fully developed, full grown, mature, without defects, no shortfall, lacking nothing.

So really, this time of waiting is changing us, maturing us, perfecting us, developing us as individuals. We as individuals are becoming what God, wants us to become.

Romans 5:4 teaches us that patience (endurance) develops proven, approved, refined character.

DECLARE THIS:

WHILE I AM WAITING GOD IS PERFECTING SOMETHING IN ME!

HE INCLINED TO ME

1 I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me, And heard my cry.

Now let's look at the second part of verse 1: "He inclined to me and heard my cry".

When we are waiting, we often start wondering. We are waiting and wondering.

We wonder if God is near.

We wonder if God knows what we are going through.

We wonder if God feels what we feel.

12 For innumerable evils have surrounded me; My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up; They are more than the hairs of my head; Therefore my heart fails me.



This is how David felt, while he was waiting. He said 'I am not able to look up', 'my heart fails me'. Imagine being in a deep, dark pit. The only option you have is to look up. But you are unable to do even that. 'I am not able to look up'. To put this in our language we would say 'there seems to be no hope', 'I feel like giving up, quitting', 'I am down and out, discouraged'.

And yet, David recognized that while He was waiting patiently, God was actually leaning over towards him ('He inclined to me'), and listening to every word, hearing every prayer ('...and heard my cry').

DECLARE THIS:

WHILE I AM WAITING, GOD IS NEAR ME, LEANING OVER AND LISTENING TO ME!

A HORRIBLE PIT AND THE MIRY CLAY

2 He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay,

David refers to whatever he was going through as 'a horrible pit' and 'miry clay'. pit of danger, destruction, desolation, tumult – representing something deep, dark, dangerous, and destructive.

muddy, miry mess, deadly quicksand – representing something messy, dirty, slimy, sticky, sinking.

David provides us some insight on what these situations might be:

12 For innumerable evils have surrounded me; My iniquities have overtaken me,....

14 Let them be ashamed and brought to mutual confusion Who seek to destroy my life; Let them be driven backward and brought to dishonor Who wish me evil.

David refers to many troubles.

Some of these are his own doing because he acknowledges 'my iniquities'.

Some of these are caused by people who seek to destroy him and do him harm.

What is the horrible pit and miry clay we find ourselves in today?

Is it something we caused for ourselves?

Is it something others have done to us?

Is it some unexpected situation that was just beyond our control?

Regardless of which of these that got us into the horrible pit and miry clay, there is good news for us today.



THE LORD'S MARVELOUS DELIVERANCE

David shares about God's marvelous work in his life.

2 He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock, And established my steps.

3 He has put a new song in my mouth—Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, And will trust in the LORD.

4 Blessed is that man who makes the LORD his trust, And does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

5 Many, O LORD my God, are Your wonderful works Which You have done; And Your thoughts toward us Cannot be recounted to You in order; If I would declare and speak of them, They are more than can be numbered.

He brought me out and set me up

He established my steps

He put a new song in my mouth

Others will see what the Lord has done in my life and turn to the Lord

This is what we can be assured of as we wait patiently for the Lord!

Hallelujah!

DECLARE THIS:

YOU ARE MY HELP AND MY DELIVERER

YOU WILL BRING ME OUT AND SET ME UP

YOU WILL ESTABLISH MY STEPS

YOU WILL PUT A NEW SONG IN MY MOUTH

OTHERS WILL SEE WHAT THE LORD DOES FOR ME AND TURN TO THE LORD!

He is the God who consoles those who mourn in Zion (Isaiah 61:3).

He is the God who gives beauty for ashes.

He is the God who gives joy for our mourning.

He gives us the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness and depression.

He set us up as trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, so that He may be glorified.

He said that instead of your shame you will have double honor (Isaiah 61:7)

Instead of confusion you will rejoice in your portion.

You will possess double blessing.



Everlasting, unending, overflowing joy will be yours.

Weeping may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning (Psalm 30:5).
Your night will end. Your morning is coming.

He is the God who turns our mourning into dancing (Psalm 30:11)
He is the God who removes our sackcloth and clothes us with gladness.

His eyes run to and fro scanning the whole globe (2 Chronicles 16:9)
His eyes are on you.
He is the God who shows Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal,
devoted, committed to Him.

God has not forgotten you.
So stand firm, be encouraged, be strong, as you wait with expectation.

The Bible says in Isaiah 64:4 *"For since the beginning of the world Men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, Nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him."*

WHILE WE WAIT PATIENTLY

Before we close, let's look at the middle portion of this Psalm.
David shares what he did while he was waiting
Psalm 40:6-11

Psalm 40:6-8 are a prophetic reference to Jesus Christ quoted in Hebrews 10:5-7
It is so interesting that while David is sharing about his personal turmoil, God is birthing something prophetic and so significant through his life.
This is just like God. He births (releases) something powerful during our waiting.

DECLARE THIS:
WHILE I AM WAITING, GOD IS RELEASING SOMETHING POWERFUL THROUGH ME!

In our study today, for the sake of brevity, we will look at these verses from David's own perspective, and not delve into the prophetic application to Jesus Christ.

We note four things David did while waiting:

1, Listen and be obedient



6 Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; My ears You have opened. Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require.

David realized that what God wanted was a listening and obedient ear, rather than bringing all kinds of sacrifices and offerings.

David said 'my ears you have opened'. This reminds us of what is said in Isaiah:

Isaiah 50:4-5

4 "The Lord GOD has given Me The tongue of the learned, That I should know how to speak A word in season to him who is weary. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear To hear as the learned.

5 The Lord GOD has opened My ear; And I was not rebellious, Nor did I turn away.

Sometimes, we mistakenly think that the way out of the pit is by trying to please God with sacrifices and offerings. We must understand that the way out is through listening and obedience.

Saul learnt this the hard way, when he was rebuked by prophet Samuel with these well-known words found in :

1 Samuel 15:22

So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.

As we listen and obey, God works in us, accomplishing the growth, development, maturity He desires in us during this time of waiting.

2, Recognize and affirm what God has spoken about you in His Word

7 Then I said, "Behold, I come; In the scroll of the book it is written of me.

Imagine, David, was stating for himself, that in God's Word, it is written of him. David was recognizing what God had spoken of him and to him.

He said or affirmed, what God's Word said about him.

While in waiting, recognize what God has spoken about you.

His Word about you has not changed.

Affirm what God has spoken about you in His book.



While in the pit, when it is all dark, dingy, and dreary – look at what is written about you in the Book, in God’s Word.

His Word says that He will always cause you to triumph (2 Corinthians 2:14).
His Word says that He who began a good work in you is faithful to complete it (Philippians 1:6)
His Word says....

3, *Delight in doing His will from the heart*

8 I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart."

While in waiting, we continue to delight in doing God’s will.
We do not get angry, upset with God, and go off into sin and rebellion.
His Word is still in our hearts, and we walk according to His Word.

4, *Proclaim God's goodness, faithfulness, salvation, righteousness before people*

9 I have proclaimed the good news of righteousness In the great assembly; Indeed, I do not restrain my lips, O LORD, You Yourself know.
10 I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart; I have declared Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your lovingkindness and Your truth From the great assembly.
11 Do not withhold Your tender mercies from me, O LORD; Let Your lovingkindness and Your truth continually preserve me.

David continued to speak of who God is to people, during his waiting.
Don’t go about complaining and wondering about God.
Speak of His goodness. Speak of His faithfulness.

SUMMARY

Let’s summarize what we learnt today from Psalm 40:

God works both ways. He does the ‘suddenly’ and He also does the ‘gradually’.

We must let patience run its full course, because patient endurance develops proven, refined, approved, character.

Three things God is doing while you are waiting:

While I am waiting God is perfecting something in me!



While I am waiting, God is near me, leaning over and listening to me!
While I am waiting, God is releasing something powerful through me!

The confidence we have, regardless of what the horrible pit and miry clay is:

God will bring you out and set you on top
God will establish your steps
God will put a new song in your mouth
Others will see what God does for you and turn to the Lord

Four things we do while we are waiting patiently:

- 1, Listen and be obedient
- 2, Recognize and affirm what God has spoken about you in His Word
- 3, Delight in doing His will from the heart - keep doing it
- 4, Proclaim God's goodness, faithfulness, salvation, righteousness before people

SALVATION CALL

If you ask, does God love me? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 3:16, Romans 5:8

If you ask, how can I have my sins forgiven? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 10:43; 1 John 2:2,12

If you ask, what is the way to God? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 14:6

If you ask, how can I become a child of God? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 1:12

If you ask, where can I find salvation? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 4:12

If you ask, what must I do to experience salvation? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 16:30-31

As an act of your own free choice, we invite you to make this decision to follow Jesus.

SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME

Minister as the Spirit leads




LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE


Sunday December 12, 2021
I Waited Patiently

This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#) . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Take turns to read the following Scripture references: Psalm 40, James 1:2-4, Romans 5:3-4

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

- 1, Discuss the importance of waiting patiently while journeying through life's challenges.*

- 2, Review the three things God is doing while we are waiting, and how knowing this turns our waiting from something painful, to something positive:
While I am waiting God is perfecting something in me!
While I am waiting, God is near me, leaning over and listening to me!
While I am waiting, God is releasing something powerful through me!*



3, Review the four things we do while we are waiting patiently and discuss how you would practice these in life:

- 1, Listen and be obedient
- 2, Recognize and affirm what God has spoken about you in His Word
- 3, Delight in doing His will from the heart - keep doing it
- 4, Proclaim God's goodness, faithfulness, salvation, righteousness before people

4, Close by affirming the confidence we have regardless of what the horrible pit and miry clay is:

- God will bring you out and set you on top
- God will establish your steps
- God will put a new song in your mouth
- Others will see what God does for you and turn to the Lord

If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

- 1, families to be protected and strengthened*
- 2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*
- 3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.*

Close by thanking God together.



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

SERMON BRIEF

Sometimes along life's journey we find ourselves in a horrible pit and in miry clay. Regardless of whether it is our own actions, the wrongdoing of other people, unexpected situations in life, we are there in a deep, dark, dreary, and dingy situation. And then we wait. Patiently. Sometimes impatiently. Waiting for God to bring us out because He is our only hope. Why does God keep us waiting? What is God doing while we are waiting? What should we do, while we are waiting? And what is the confident assurance we have even when we find ourselves in a horrible pit and in miry clay? We discover useful answers as we take a close look at Psalm 40.

KEYWORDS

Psalm 40, waiting for God, I waited patiently, horrible pit, miry clay, new song, feet upon the rock, deliverance

REFERENCES/CITATIONS



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, New King James Version. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc., Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Biblical definitions, Hebrew and Greek words and their meanings are drawn from the following resources:

Thayer's Greek Definitions. Published in 1886, 1889; public domain.

Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries, Strong's Exhaustive Concordance by James Strong, S.T.D., LL.D. Published in 1890; public domain.