

# DON'T WASTE THE WAITING

PROVERBS 27:14

The word Advent means 'coming.'

Coming implies that something has not yet arrived, but it is on its way.

God's people should know and understand what it means to WAIT, but KNOW something more is coming. There was a 400-year gap between the Old Testament prophecies of Jesus and the New Testament birth of Jesus. Just because we know something is going to happen does not always mean we handle the in-between well. I have found the waiting part to be the most challenging. I'd like to challenge and remind us of something - let us not waste the waiting.

**Proverbs 27:14** gives us some insight into this idea of not wasting our waiting.

Firstly, we know whom to wait for, and it is not a human being. It is easy to feel overwhelmed, frustrated, disappointed, hurt, or angry when we wait for another human to do what only God can do for us. If you find yourself struggling with waiting, perhaps it would be helpful to ask yourself (and answer honestly) whom am I waiting for? Is it my spouse? My boss? Maybe a friend or family member, whomever it may be - waiting on someone else to take care of whatever you are dealing with can often lead to disappointment. Yet if we can take God as His word and trust He is always doing something, we can find peace and grow in the waiting.

The Psalmist also encourages us to "be strong" and "let your heart take courage." When I read instructions like these, I often think, "Reads well on a bumper sticker, terribly hard to live out at times." So what can help us grow in strength (ability to persevere) and courage (stand firm in our faith)? A few come to mind, but I wanted to leave you with one during this Advent season.

**Remember.**

Yes. Remember. Remind yourself whom God says He is and whom He has shown Himself to be throughout history. Remember, He has never failed. Remember His ways are not your ways (Isaiah 55:8), that He thinks and acts differently than we do, yet He is perfect and undefeated in all His ways.

When things don't make sense and are complex, remember this - the cross doesn't make a ton of logical sense (to me anyway). Yet God has used the same cross that Jesus came to bear, to save us, to redeem us, to take away all pain and confusion. We are waiting for this to be fulfilled for all eternity. It is coming. We know this is true. So we can be strong, courageous and wait on the Lord, to do as only He can and will.