

Pastor Ron Case  
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## **“Hope’s Dark Side”**

**“But 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)**

### **Waiting isn’t a Game**

**Romans 4:18-21** – (18) **“In hope (Abraham) believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, ‘So shall your offspring be.’** (19) He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb.

(20) No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, (21) fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.”

**Psalms 105:16-19** – (16) **“When he summoned a famine on the land and broke all supply of bread, (17) he had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave. (18) His feet were hurt with fetters; his neck was put in a collar of iron; (19) until what he had said came to pass, the word of the LORD tested him.”**

**“Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the LORD!” (Psalm 27:14)**

### **Work of Waiting**

**John 12:20-25** – (20) **“Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. (21) So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ (22) Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. (23) And Jesus answered them, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. (24) Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. (25) Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.”**

## **When We Are Afflicted, Wait**

**2 Corinthians 1:8-10** – (8) “For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. (9) Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead.

(10) He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.”

**2 Corinthians 7:5-6** – (5) “For even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within. (6) But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus.”

## **When We Mess Up, Wait**

**Psalms 107:23-30** – (23) “Some went down to the sea in ships, doing business on the great waters; (24) they saw the deeds of the LORD, his wondrous works in the deep. (25) For he commanded and raised the stormy wind, which lifted up the waves of the sea. (26) They mounted up to heaven; they went down to the depths; their courage melted away in their evil plight; (27) they reeled and staggered like drunken men and were at their wits’ end. (28) Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. (29) He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed. (30) Then they were glad that the waters were quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven.”

## **When You Are Strong, Wait**

**Lamentations 3:25-27** – (25) “The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. (26) It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. (27) It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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