

My Loved Ones:

Ps 40 with its title and first verse says, “To the Chief Musician [Choir Director]. A Psalm of David. / I waited patiently for the LORD; / And He inclined to me, / And heard my cry.”

Again, we need to be reminded that the notes at the head of all but a few of our psalms are part of the inspired text of the Hebrew Bible. So, we don’t want to overlook them. As we’ve seen before, it is inscribed for the director of a group of voices that sings God’s praise & worship. Choirs are mentioned over 55 times in the Bible; God wants to be praised with music, even choir music. “Psalm” means that is to be sung with instruments accompanying. We should appreciate those who play musical instruments who help us in worship, and pray that the Lord raises up many more.

Psalm 40 is in two parts: 1) Past Triumphs reveal that waiting on the LORD is rewarded (40:1-10); 2) Present Troubles reveal that waiting on the LORD should be renewed (40:11-17).

Psalm 40:1 is about the LORD hearing us. He does hear the most desperate prayers of our hearts. But notice what our responsibility is first: wait. Literally, in Hebrew, the phrase is “waiting, I waited for the LORD.” It is not just patient; there is an intensity to it. Waiting *for* the Lord and waiting *on* Him doesn’t mean that we’re just spinning our wheels, twiddling our thumbs, and being lazy, sitting back with our feet up, eating chocolates, and watching TV. Waiting is not carelessness; waiting is not complacency, nor is it complaining! If you are praying and waiting on God to answer, but you’re being lazy in your Christian life and complaining all the while, well, no wonder things aren’t happening. God is wanting to deliver you from your careless, complacent and complaining spirit. The waiting here is anticipating, expecting God to work. This anticipation means that I’m in His Word searching for answers, and it means that I’m praying, and looking around for His working around me. The good thing is that this verse plays up the point that God never disappoints!

When we are waiting, in His Word, praying and anticipating Him to work, He “inclines to us.” Really, it means that He gets down on our level; that He bends down to us and turns toward us. It’s just like when someone’s attention has been gotten, and then they are riveted.

Wait patiently; God promises to fix His attention on you and hear you. God is patient with you. Why not be patient with Him? While you wait, God is working all kinds of things behind the scenes that you can’t see, and He’s developing something inside of you, too! Are you in a difficult situation waiting on God to work? Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there. He WILL come through.

Praying for you today, my loved ones.