

Wait for the LORD and keep his way, and he will exalt you to inherit the land; you will look on when the wicked are cut off.

**Psalm 37:34**

## Store In My Heart

### Lamentations 1:1-3

Judah has gone into exile under affliction And under harsh servitude; She dwells among the nations, But she has found no rest; All her pursuers have overtaken her In the midst of distress.

Generally considered to have been written by Jeremiah after the fall of Jerusalem in about 586 BC, Lamentations is a collection of poems. As the name indicates, these poems are full of sorrow that God's people turned away to the point that they were taken from the promised land. Many prophets repeatedly warned, yet Judah did not heed.

There is a bright spot in the midst of this grief as the author speaks of hope through repentance and God's great mercy. Other books confirm the fulfillment of this hope. Yet if Judah had just listened to the prophets they could have been spared. Am I listening to God?



# Standing The Test Of Time

**Max Dawson**

For the past several weeks our leadership journal has focused on people from Genesis and Exodus. We have seen lessons from three different Pharaohs, and even lessons from the midwives in Exodus 1. Powerful leadership lessons can be drawn from each of these.

Those midwives saved an untold number of lives of newborn babies. Whether directly, or indirectly, they contributed to the saving of the life of baby Moses. That baby was destined to grow into adulthood and lead the people of Israel out of Egyptian bondage.

But Moses' leadership did not come quickly or easily. At age 40, Moses made a failed attempt at leading the people of God (Acts 7:22-25). Following that incident, Moses fled to the land of Midian where he became a shepherd. It was in Midian that God called Moses to return to Egypt and deliver His people (Exodus 3:1ff). By this time, Moses was 80 years old!

Eighty years old! Moses had to wait a long time to be the leader of God's people. But, it wasn't just that he had to wait. Through all those years God was preparing Moses for his role. God often called kingdom leaders to wait until the time (and the person) was ready to fulfill God's purpose. So, we are not surprised that Moses had to wait for so long.

## Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

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### For Our Information

John and Phyllis Jackson are in isolation for Covid. Both are coughing and running fever.

Adene Gray is still feeling weak.

Joyce Venable has not been feeling well.

Jimmy Gray still has knee pain. Surgery in October.

John Venable does not return to his doctor for a year.

Tonight we start in 1Samuel 16:3.

Wednesday at 7 pm in Galatians 3:15.

**Pray for safety, courage & healing.**

Consider other leaders that God has called for His purposes.

God called Abraham (Genesis 12:1-9). God would make of Abraham's family a great nation, give them a great land, and--through Abraham's family--would bring a person into the world who would bless all nations. But Abraham and Sarah had borne no children. God would make Abraham wait 25 years for Isaac to be born (Genesis 17:17).

It appears that Noah may have waited as many as 120 years before he led his family onto the life-saving ark God had commanded him to build (Genesis 6:3).

And what about Joseph? How long did he have to wait in prison before God brought him to a position of leadership in Egypt? According to Genesis 41:1, it was a least two full years. One day spent in prison for a crime you did not commit is too long! And, even before that imprisonment, Joseph served for an extended period of time as a kidnapped slave in Potiphar's house. Why did God make Joseph wait so long?

With each of these cases, there was a lengthy period before these men came into the positions for which God had prepared them. And that is the key to "why" isn't it! God was preparing Moses, Abraham, Noah, and Joseph for the important roles they were to play. Time tested the mettle of each of those men.

Maxwell said, "God prepares in a crockpot, not a microwave." It is the waiting while God works in us that prepares us for the tasks ahead of us. That time of growth and maturity equips us for God's purposes and enables us to lead when God's timetable is right.

Kingdom leaders are patient. They allow things to happen in God's time. Meanwhile, like Joseph, they continue to do the right thing day-by-day. That's the key. We can do the same.

(This is part of a series Brother Dawson sends via email each week. I include this as another reminder of the number of ways we have available to learn from God's Word. This message is also important for each of us. Waiting is not always easy. Sometimes we grow weary from the time spent waiting. As children of God we must learn to wait for His time. He knows best. DLH)

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

