

## Thursday, December 12

Read Galatians 4:4-7. In the first verse of this passage, “the fullness of time” was mentioned. The two words translated the time had fully come is the word pleroma chronou. Chronou, if you'll think of chronology, it's like a clock. That means time. Pleroma, it means complete, or it means the full measure. Together, it means the perfect time. What do you think of when you hear those two words, “perfect time?” During the message, Pastor Jack mentioned three things that make us wait for the “perfect time.” First is the “it” that we are waiting for, whatever “it” is for you. Second is us. What needs to happen within us to make this the perfect time? Third is what needs to happen in the lives of others to tie everything together to create the fullness of time. Think about what you would life for God to do in your life. Which of these three elements – it, you, others – do you believe needs work for the fullness of time to happen? Meditate on these ideas and write your response here.

## Friday, December 13

Read Matthew 1:18-25. The question was asked concerning how we are to live while waiting. Three suggestions were mentioned: 1) waiting with the Golden Rule in mind, 2) wait with God's goodness in mind and 3) wait with the end in mind. God truly wants to give us all that we need to live life abundantly so our waiting is not to be a passive time in our lives when we just...waiting! We need to be treating others well, as we would want to be treated, we need to respond to God's goodness and spread that goodness to others and we need to keep the end results that we want in mind. We should always be working while trusting that God is doing something great for each of us. The message ended with these thoughts: Waiting is inevitable. Our existence on this planet is one of waiting. This means if you haven't learned to wait, you haven't learned how to live. What do you think? Write your thoughts here assured that God is present and God's perfect timing is on the horizon.

## Message Notes – December 8, 2024

### *Missing Peace: What Are We Waiting For?\**

- I. One of the worst feelings in life is to \_\_\_\_\_. “I just love \_\_\_\_\_!” said no one ever!
  - A. One of the worst feelings in life is to \_\_\_\_\_, especially when it comes to waiting on \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. Waiting isn't \_\_\_\_\_ and we are certainly not alone in waiting on God.
  - C. It is most important to see that this early in the recorded history of God and Humanity there is a \_\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_\_ that will come from the offspring of the woman.
- II. During the 400 years of God seemingly being inactive, \_\_\_\_\_ really \_\_\_\_\_ things happened; I believe God was very active in those 400 years.
  - A. First was the rise of Alexander the \_\_\_\_\_; this was the first time in history there was a common language - \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. Second, the Old Testament was translated into \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. Third, the \_\_\_\_\_ was developed.
  - D. Number four, in 63 BC, the \_\_\_\_\_ conquered the Greeks; this was a very unusual and unprecedented season of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - E. Number five, there was a great spreading of the \_\_\_\_\_ people throughout the known world; this was known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
- III. It is important for us to know and embrace that God's \_\_\_\_\_ are not necessarily God's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Galatians 4:4: “But when the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ had come, God sent his Son, born of a

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\*Matthew 1:18-25 and Galatians 4:4-7

woman, born under the law.”

1. Another translator says, "But when the time was \_\_\_\_\_, God sent his Son."
2. Literally this phrase means, but when the time was \_\_\_\_\_.

- IV. What are we \_\_\_\_\_ for? Three \_\_\_\_\_ come to mind.
- A. First, maybe it's just not the \_\_\_\_\_ yet. In other words, while you're waiting on \_\_\_\_.
  - B. Second, God may be waiting on \_\_\_\_\_ to get ready. He's doing something in \_\_\_\_\_. God's doing something in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. Third, it could be that God is working on \_\_\_\_\_.
- V. God's word is packed with insights and encouragement on how one can \_\_\_\_\_ wait on God's work.
- A. First, we must wait with the \_\_\_\_\_ in mind.
  - B. Second, we must wait also with God's \_\_\_\_\_ in mind.
  - C. Finally, we must wait with an \_\_\_\_\_ in mind.
  - D. Waiting is \_\_\_\_\_. Our existence on this planet is one of waiting. This means if you haven't learned to \_\_\_\_\_, you haven't learned how to \_\_\_\_\_.

## ***Daily Devotional Guide***

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

### **Monday, December 9**

Do you enjoy waiting? Seems like a silly question as it was shared in the message that nobody really likes to wait. We wait in line at the store, or the Secretary of State, or at the doctor's office. We wait for our computers to boot up and for a website to upload! How do you wait? Would you describe yourself as a patient

person? For what things are you waiting for in your life? Meditate on these questions and write your reflections here.

### **Tuesday, December 10**

Waiting can be difficult. Waiting for God and be doubly frustrating. We praise our God for God's goodness and that God wants what's best for us, but so often we become frustrated with unanswered prayer. We're not even sure God hears our prayers. We turn away from God when we don't believe our life is blessed with God's presence and attention.

Do you every feel that way? Is there something in your life that you are waiting for God's response and guidance? It is a money issue? Is it a relationship issue? Is it an issue of your happiness and contentment? What is your "it?" Write your thoughts here as you think about what you are currently expecting and waiting for God to do in your life.

### **Wednesday, December 11**

Read Genesis 3:1-18. Focus on Verse 15. Some scholars believe this is the first mention of the idea that God will send us a Savior. When that idea was mentioned in the Message, it was an illustration of long humanity had to wait for our Savior. From the dawn of time to the time of Isaiah 700 years before the birth of Jesus to the actual birth of Jesus were thousands of years! Perhaps the point of this observation is to say we need to learn patience and how to wait. What do you think? Could it be that time, a human concept is just not that important to God? Could it be that if we are to be more like God we should view time differently? While praying for God's wisdom, write your thoughts here.