

NOVEMBER 2018

# John Newlin Ministries, Inc.

- realizing the power of a life in Christ-

Page 1.....WAITING FOR THE LORD  
Page 3.....WHAT A CHRISTMAS GIFT!

**THE GREAT TRUTH OF OUR TIME:** Everything is secondary right now to the fact that Jesus is coming soon and that to be in the Kingdom, to go with him, you must be a true believer in him. You must be born anew. Jesus must be your Lord.

## WAITING FOR THE LORD (AND NOT GETTING AHEAD OF HIM!)

*Wait for the LORD;  
be strong and take heart  
and wait for the LORD. – Psalm 27:14*

Nothing is more difficult to comprehend. We live here on earth for a finite time. Daily that time is expiring. And we have responsibilities. And we have the Word of God in the Bible, all the commands and guidance and truths. Those who know the Lord may also sometimes have direct words from him, and the clear guidance of the Holy Spirit.

But wait? Wait when things are falling apart, when there is danger at the door, when we think we are trying our best to live as God wants us to and we are not clear about what he would have us do? Yet there is no word from him forthcoming, and the time is here when we think in all reasonableness we must act?

What does this “wait” mean? All of us believers have struggled and do struggle with this. There are times and instances on earth when we have to take an action and we have not heard his guidance. Or we don’t think we have. And we have to act – to move, to sell a house, to pay an important bill yet we don’t have the funds, to take a job or not, perhaps even move boldly in a dangerous situation to protect ourselves or our family, to distance ourselves from dangerous people, so many examples. What does this “wait” mean and what are we to do?

There is the school of thought that says in such a situation we are to take whatever steps we can obviously and rationally take, steps that surely are in line with God and his Word, but not not do any highly risky thing without his clear guidance. Well, maybe. Is that true? What a conundrum.

Another version of that view is that we are to act on all we’ve been told by the Lord up to that point and nothing more...wait for further guidance. But what if you can’t wait? What if the figurative truck is about to smash you and you have to get out of the way?

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*Keep Your Eyes on Jesus!*

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We all want to act in accordance with his plan and word. There is the guidance in Jeremiah that we should call out to him and he will answer and will show us great and mighty things we do not know (Jeremiah 33:3). So surely do that!!! But my own experience shows that answer may not always be coming immediately, at least not all the time. Sometimes it does.

I have had the same questions and issues you no doubt have had here. And in my life with all God has called us to do, I've had a lot of experiences too.

Sometimes God answers instantly. Sometimes when you need and must have an immediate answer, he gives one. When a neighbor suddenly and shockingly died in the middle of the night, we walked into the house early in the morning to a terribly sad situation. Some people and friends were there, with the young wife and son. The young wife came straight to me and said "Pray for us!" And she hugged me and I hugged her. And I said "How about right now! God, we need your help for all these people right now!" I've forgotten whatever else I said, but that prayer had impact. It may have been the boldest I have ever been in speaking to God. The room continued sad as you can imagine, but there was some type of peace. God's help was needed right then. Right then! No time for delay, for exasperating silence in a time of great need. And he responded right then!

Remember my testimony of how I cried out many years ago in a car at night on the New Jersey Turnpike, "Jesus, help me! I don't know what to do." He answered immediately! He came into the car instantly and my life was forever changed.

There are answers to "right now" prayers at times. But not always, it seems. Maybe God thinks sometimes you don't need an answer right now. Or maybe he thinks you have the answer. I don't know. David wrote much about God being silent at times. It concerned him, but then he would write about faith. And confidence in God.

That is where we have to be. I wish he were not so quiet at times. When we are striving so to serve him, and we need his help, I wish he were more vocal and direct and specific. But that is just not how it is. And you and I both know that God knows what is best. I've read this waiting described as encouraging faith, and as hopeful expectation. You can decide what you think about those interpretations.

Another great scripture about waiting is this:

*I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,  
and in his word I put my hope.*

*I wait for the Lord*

*more than watchmen wait for the morning,*

*more than watchmen wait for the morning. – Psalm 130:5-6*

Certainly hopeful. Let's be honest. Any serious believer is going to do a lot of waiting for the Lord. Doesn't mean he is idle, as noted above. But still a lot of waiting. We know God loves us, we know he is true and honest and so many good things. And in my case and perhaps yours we

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know the plans he has for us and what he has called us to. Still, though, this is waiting. Hard. Difficult.

We have a great example of waiting for God in the publication of our new book **WAKE UP AMERICA!** God told me to write that book twenty-five years ago! I tried but it didn't come about then. I just didn't have all the revelation needed to write it. Over the years God gave me more and more revelation about the time we are living in. The book came up again about a year and a half ago and I was able to write it. God opened some really unusual doors, and the book is now published. I had to wait until the time was right, until God had given me all I needed to write it. Amazingly, the book came from the printer's at the time Israel was celebrating its seventieth anniversary! That is God's timing – sometimes even we can see that clearly: twenty-five years, seventy years. Wow.

The other side of this waiting issue is the risk and danger of getting ahead of God. This has to do with knowing what God's plan is for you in life and stepping out to make it happen even before knowing how God would have you proceed. Certainly all this is a fine line. We don't want to be laggards, not doing what we are supposed to do. But getting ahead of God leaves you wide open to attacks from the evil one, problems you had not anticipated, all sorts of things.

Here is a warning God gave me on this point many years ago. In a dream/vision, I was chasing the devil up some rickety steep stairs in a lighthouse. I kept climbing and running, holding a knife. At one point I turned and shouted back, "Are you back there God?" How is that for something you don't want to ever have to say? Pretty chilling! Confronting the devil and not sure God is with you! You want God ahead of you always, paving the way, opening the doors. There is more to this dramatic account, but I think you get the point.

The key to this waiting question is to keep your eyes on Jesus and your spiritual eyes and ears open and alert at all times! The goal is to act when God wants you to act, not before and not later.

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## WHAT A CHRISTMAS GIFT! GIVE WAKE UP AMERICA! TO ALL YOU CARE ABOUT!

This book presents clear, factual evidence accompanied by inspirational true life accounts to make the point that Jesus is coming very soon and that people do indeed need to have him as their Lord. Now! Not later!

Several have given this book to members of their families or small group or others. Our book is something a person can read in the privacy of their own homes. They don't have to respond to others while they read. But they do eventually have to respond to God, or they are lost forever. You can order the book by contacting our ministry directly or by going to one of these web sites:

<https://johnnewlinministries.org/store.htm> for print book



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<https://amazon.com/author/wakeupamerica> for Kindle e-book and print book

If you wish to order more than ten copies, contact the ministry directly for a greatly reduced rate. Let's all do our part so that those whom God intends to be with him in the Kingdom can hear the return message and indeed the gospel itself.

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**Cathy and I wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving!**  
**Please take the time to reflect on all that you have to be thankful for. Remember God's blessings to you.**

**May you live in the blessings of God always.**

**John**

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