

WAITING PATIENTLY

“Blessed are all they that wait for him” Isaiah 30:18

THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS

It’s a mess out there isn’t it? The world I mean: our society, our nation. Viruses, lockdowns, marches, riots, political turmoil and outbreaks of violence are converging, resulting in instability. And while we naturally focus on what is going on where we are, these and other similar problems are manifesting simultaneously in many nations; most nations. Across much of the world societies appear to be fragmenting and falling apart.

FEELINGS AND QUESTIONS

For many, this instability produces fear and worry. And this fear and worry produces questions like: “Where is all this going and what will the future look like?” The fear and worry are magnified for those with children and grandchildren. As they wonder what kind of a world will those I love so much have to live in?

THE BIG QUESTION

For Bible believers, these questions all lead to the big question: “When will Jesus return and bring all this to its promised conclusion?” The answer to that question is withheld. However, as Scripture tells us we cannot know its precise answer. And with that we end our pursuit of the exact day and hour of His return.

GOD’S SUSTAINING ANSWER

But in recent years and in recent days I have heard myself and others ask another question:” Why hasn’t Jesus returned already?” It gives me great comfort that James 5:7 supplies the answer to that question. *“The husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until He receive the early and latter rain.”* Jesus hasn’t returned yet because the harvest isn’t completed. You and I simply have to wait until that moment comes for Jesus to return.

HOW SHOULD WE WAIT

Thankfully, James 5 doesn’t just supply us the answer as to why we yet wait for His coming. It also supplies key information on how we should wait. Patience is key. And we maintain it by:

- Following Jesus’ example of patiently waiting for the completed harvest – James 5:7
- Establishing our hearts – James 5:8 – This is done by trusting Jesus’ promise to come no matter what is going on around us
- Continuing in the knowledge that the coming of the Lord draws near – James 5:8

Keep looking up and remain patient because, *“In your patience possess ye your souls.”* (Luke 21:19).