



They That Wait Upon the Lord





Allied Forces – 400,000

German Forces – 800,000

Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral – "The Miracle of Dunkirk"



Acts 1: 6-8 – God’s Plan for You

- So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, **“Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?”**
- ⁷ He said to them, **“It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;**
- ⁸ **but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;**
- and *you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”*



Two KEY Words

- Power – Dunamis
 - **power for any thing, even performing miracles**
- Witness – Martyr
 - Legal term – **called to tell the truth about what you have seen or heard**
- The Holy Spirit will give you the ability to tell what you have experienced - with *miraculous* results!!!!



Now WHAT? Acts 1: 12-14

- Then they returned to Jerusalem from the [i]mount called [k]Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a [l]Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ When they had entered *the city*, they went up to the upper room where they were staying; that is, Peter and John and [m]James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, [n]James *the son* of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas *the* [o]son of [p]James. *¹⁴ These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.*



Wait Means Pray

- All with one mind = complete agreement, unity of thought, purpose and focus
- Continuously = they did not stop, they were never not praying together in complete agreement, with unity of thought, purpose and focus
- They were confused, desperate, but NOT hopeless – Their #1 activity and only strategy was to cry out to God



Personal Prayer vs Intercession

- We all pray – mostly for our needs, worries, concerns – the things that cause our personal pain – that’s fine, God cares
- Intercession – praying strategically for Kingdom issues – big challenges require big battles, which means Big Prayers – all hands on deck
- Ezekiel 22:30 - I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, so that I would not destroy it; but I found [g]no one.
- Sometimes prayer is not the last resort – it is the best resort – continuous and one accord



What Happened at Dunkirk

- When the war broke out the prayer meetings at Wales Bible College became a daily event. Every evening from 7:00 p.m. to midnight and often later, the students and staff met to pray. Every week and often for days at a time there were whole days of prayer. It seems that God would lay one or another aspect of the war on the heart of Rees Howells or one of the other pray-ers, and the whole community would intercede.



Hell Upon Earth

- “May 27, 2.45 p.m. (from Rees Howells’ diary) ‘It is as much as I can do to believe today. The news between the two [prayer] meetings was awful — hell upon earth.’ On May 28 Mr. Howells again was alone with God. In the meetings the prayer was for God to intervene at Dunkirk and save our men; and as the Spirit came upon them in prayer and supplication, what one prayed at the end expressed the assurance given to all: ‘I feel sure something has happened.’”
- Hitler had given the order to stop on May 24



Divine Intervention

- “After the war, Air Chief Marshal Lord, Dowding, Commander-in-Chief of Fighter Command in the Battle of Britain, made this significant comment: “Even during the battle one realized from day to day how much external support was coming in. At the end of the battle one had the sort of feeling that there had been some special Divine intervention to alter some sequence of events which would otherwise have occurred.”



Battle of Britain

- “with the Battle of Britain over London and the south of England at its fiercest, Rees Howells wrote ‘There have been so many places bombed in London, even Buckingham Palace has been touched. I was burdened to pray for the King and Queen, and I believe our prayer will be answered. I am just watching how God will take hold of the enemy.’”
- “September 12. ‘We prayed last night that London would be defended and that the enemy would fail to break through, and God answered prayer. Unless God can get hold of this devil and bind him, no man is safe. If we have protection for our properties, why not get protection for the country?’”
- “September 14. ‘Because we have believed, God has made known to us what is to come to pass. Every creature is to hear the Gospel; Palestine is to be regained by the Jews; and the Saviour is to return.’”



They That Wait Upon the Lord

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- They were confused, desperate, but NOT hopeless – Their #1 activity and only strategy was to cry out to God
- They that wait upon the Lord will renew their strength, they will mount up with wings as eagles. They will run and not be weary, they will walk and not faint. Is. 40:31



Our Mission, Our Message – You are

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY