

LUKE 12:35-38

I wonder what the servants in this parable were thinking and feeling as they were kept waiting and working for their master's return?

Working? Yes they had to make sure everything was ready - hot water to wash feet, fresh food to refresh him - then he hadn't shown up oil lamps burned out, water and food getting cold - thrown away (what waste!) a fresh lot prepared - and then thrown away and replaced - all could have seemed frustrating pointless waste of time - or not. There are so many things we can be waiting/ preparing for - some trivial some of eternal importance - Hab 2:14, Psalm 79:5 How long, O LORD?

I don't think it is far off to suggest that in many ways the spiritual atmosphere in our world today is like a dark night - We know the sun exists but it is hidden from sight - how then as the people of God should we live? through the "watches of the night" - whether on a worldwide scale or in our personal lives and experience. Night is part of God's good creation: yet not without lights to "rule" it. Gen 1:14-18

Jesus chose disciples to firstly "be with him" Mark 3:14. Jesus didn't want to face things on his own. Read Mark 14:33-37

Compare to Isa 62:6-7 and Lamentations 2:19.

This "Keeping watch - being a watchman" I believe is a prophetic word for us today - it is a key part of our purpose and identity to be watchmen - we watch - look intently and see what is going on around us and pray. Being ready and waiting.



01 — Read James 5:7-11

How good are we at waiting? What are our coping strategies?



02 — Comfort from the Bible

What comfort is there in Psalm 74:16-18?
(You could also look at Genesis 1:14-18)



03 — Waiting in Prayer

How can we have a healthy response to God's (apparent) slowness in answering our prayers?



04 — Not Alone

What can we learn from the fact that Jesus sent out his disciples in pairs (i.e. not alone)?

