

WEARY OF WAITING

What NOT to do while you wait:

1. Allow apathy to creep in.

Malachi 4:5 (NIV) *"See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. ⁶He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction."*

Malachi 4:5 (NIV) *"See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. ⁶He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents..."*

2. We begin to fill in the blanks.

Why we don't include the Apocrypha in our Bibles

1. It teaches that works save us.

"For almsgiving saves from death and purses away every sin. Those who give alms will enjoy a full life (Tobit 12:9)

2. Purgatory is taught.

"So they all blessed the ways of the Lord, the righteous judge, who reveals the things that are hidden; and they turned to supplication, praying that the sin that has been committed might be wholly blotted out. (2 Maccabees 12:41)

3. God hears the prayers of the dead

"O Lord Almighty, God of Israel, hear now the prayer of the dead of Israel, the children of those who sinned before you... (Baruch 3:4)

4. No Apocrypha book is ever cited in the NT as Scripture

5. Jews have always rejected the Apocrypha as Scripture

6. These books were written in the 400 Silent Years

7. Almost all church leaders rejected the Apocryphal books.

8. It's full of contradictions and errors

About the Bible:

- It is the world's best selling book of all time and is the most translated book ever (into over 1,300 languages).
 - It was written by more than 30 people.
 - It was written over a span of 1,600 years from people of every walk of life.
- 5,300 Greek manuscripts from the New Testament alone still exist today.

Luke 1:1 (NIV) *Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, ² just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. ³ With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.*

What CAN we do while we wait? Here are 2 Helpful things.

1. Be Faithful

⁶ *And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.*

⁸ *Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, ⁹ according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰ And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense.*

Are you a faithful person?

Luke 16:10 (NIV) *Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.*

Luke 1:11 (NIV) *Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. ¹³ But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.*

2. We PRAY!

¹⁴ *He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, ¹⁵ for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born.*

¹⁶ *He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”*