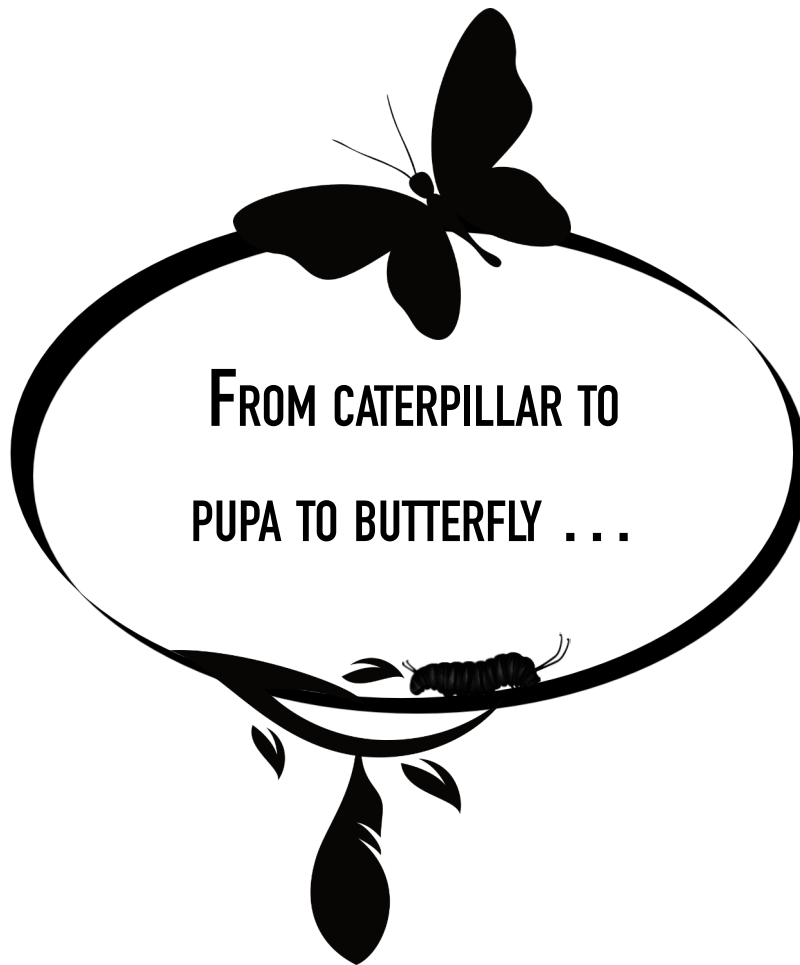


WAITING PATIENTLY FOR THE LORD



MAKING THE LORD OUR TRUST

THE BLESSED METAMORPHOSIS OF THE PERSON WHO PATIENTLY WAITS FOR THE LORD ... FROM CATERPILLAR TO PUPA TO BUTTERFLY ...



METAMORPHOSIS: A striking change in appearance or character or circumstances. In an insect or amphibian—the process of transformation from an immature form to an adult form in two or more distinct stages, as in the life history of the caterpillar to the pupa and from the pupa to the adult butterfly.

The person who patiently waits for the LORD **becomes** the person who makes the LORD his trust. His transformation is a result of his growing experiential knowledge that the LORD is a listening, powerful God who saves and makes secure. The one who makes the LORD his trust never wavers from her belief that God is God, that God alone is God, that God rules in majesty and might and that there is none like him.

- (Romans 12:2 NLT) Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God **transform** you into a new person by changing the way you think. **Then you will learn to know God's will for you**, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Transform [Gk. μεταμορφώω – *metamorphoo*]: to be transformed; to be or become changed in outward appearance or expression as manifesting a change in nature or essence.

1. THE PERSON WHO PATIENTLY WAITS FOR THE LORD WILL BE HEARD BY THE LORD, 40:1.

- (Psalm 40:1 ESV) **I waited patiently for the LORD;** he inclined to me and heard my cry.

When we wait patiently—endure and persevere in expectation and hope—for the LORD, then the LORD will bend toward us and hear us in our time of need.

2. THE PERSON WHO PATIENTLY WAITS FOR THE LORD WILL BE RESCUED BY THE LORD FROM THE UNCONQUERABLE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS LIFE, 40:2.

- (Psalm 40:2 ESV) **He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock,** making my steps secure.
- a. The LORD will draw this person up from the pit of destruction—a devastating trial.

The pit of destruction is a large hole in the ground into which the person has fallen and has been damaged beyond repair.

- b. The LORD will draw this person out of the miry bog—a despairingly, frustrating trial.



The miry bog is literally muddy mud; a mucky bog with no bottom, no foothold.

- (Psalm 69:1–3 ESV) Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck. 2 **I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold;** I have come into deep waters, and the flood sweeps over me. 3 I am weary with my crying out; my throat is parched. **My eyes grow dim with waiting for my God.**
- c. The LORD will set this person's feet upon a rock—a place of God-given security.

God has taken her from the miry bog and set her upon solid rock. From her new position of security she now fully trusts in the ways of the LORD. Rescued from the mud and shifting sands of the world she now lives on the firm foundation of God.

3. THE PERSON WHO PATIENTLY WAITS FOR THE LORD WILL BE BLESSED WITH A POWERFUL TESTIMONY WHICH WILL ELICIT REVERENCE FOR AND TRUST IN THE LORD, 40:3.

- (Psalm 40:3 ESV) **He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.** Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.



THE BLESSED, TRANSFORMED LIFE OF THE PERSON WHO HAS MADE THE LORD HIS TRUST ...

4. THE ONE WHO HAS MADE THE LORD HIS TRUST HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH HUMILITY BEFORE THE LORD, 40:4-5.

- (Psalm 40:4–5 ESV) **Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!** 5 You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.
- (Psalm 1:1 ESV) Blessed is the man who **walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers.**
 - a. He trusts in the LORD and does not turn to the proud who go astray following a lie.
 - b. He recognizes that his pride may cause him to follow a lie and wander into deceit.
 - c. His trusts in the LORD brings him to a place of worshipful recognition and praise for the multiplied greatness of God and God's thoughts toward him.
 - (Ephesians 2:4–7 ESV) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love

with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 **so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.**

- (Ephesians 3:20–21 ESV) **Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think,** according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.
- (Philippians 4:19 ESV) **And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.**

5. THE ONE WHO HAS MADE THE LORD HIS TRUST HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH THE ABILITY TO HEAR GOD AND TO DELIGHT IN DOING THE WILL OF GOD, 40:6-8.

- (Psalm 40:6–8 ESV) **In sacrifice and offering you have not delighted, but you have given me an open ear.** Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required. 7 Then I said, “Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me: 8 **I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.**”

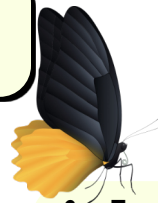
- He has been blessed with an ear to hear.
 - (Revelation 2:29, 3:6, 13, 22 ESV) **He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.**
 - (Matthew 13:14–17 ESV) Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: “You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.” 15 **For this people’s heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.** 16 **But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.** 17 For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.
- He has been blessed with delight in doing the will of God and having the law of God within his heart.

- (1 John 2:15–17 ESV) Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. 17 **And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.**

- (Ephesians 5:17 ESV) Therefore do not be foolish, but **understand what the will of the Lord is.**

c. It follows then that the one who delights in doing the will of God will want to know the will of God.

- (Romans 12:1–2 ESV) I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God,** which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God,** what is good and acceptable and perfect.



6. THE ONE WHO HAS MADE THE LORD HIS TRUST HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH AN UNRESTRAINED, PASSIONATE EXPRESSION OF THE GLAD NEWS OF DELIVERANCE IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE SAINTS, 40:9-10.

- (Psalm 40:9–10 ESV) I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; **behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.** 10 I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

- He tells of the glad news of deliverance—the gospel.
- He openly shares the story of his heart that was delivered through the LORD’s faithfulness and salvation.
 - (Psalm 40:10 NASB 2020) **I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart; I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your mercy and Your truth from the great congregation.**
- He makes sure to broadcast the truth about the steadfast love and faithfulness of God.

7. THE ONE WHO HAS MADE THE LORD HIS TRUST HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HIS BATTLE WITH SIN AND SELF IS NOT OVER, 40:11-12.

- (Psalm 40:11–12 ESV) **As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mercy from me; your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!** 12 For evils have encompassed me beyond number; my iniquities have overtaken me, and I cannot see; they are more than the hairs of my head; my heart fails me.

- a. He knows to pray for the LORD's mercy.
- b. He knows to trust in the LORD's love and faithfulness to watch over him.
- c. He knows the depth and the power of his sin.

8. THE ONE WHO HAS MADE THE LORD HIS TRUST HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HIS BATTLE WITH SINNERS IS NOT OVER, 40:13-15.

- (Psalm 40:13–15 ESV) **Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me!** 14 Let those be put to shame and disappointed altogether who seek to snatch away my life; let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who delight in my hurt! 15 **Let those be appalled because of their shame who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"**

- a. He calls out to the LORD for deliverance from sinners.
- b. He prays that the LORD will vindicate him as he battles those who delight in hurting him.
- c. He prays that the LORD will shame his accusers.



9. THE ONE WHO HAS MADE THE LORD HIS TRUST HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH A JOYFUL DESIRE TO BLESS HIS FELLOW SEEKERS OF THE LORD, 40:16.

- (Psalm 40:16 ESV) But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; **may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the LORD!"**

10. THE ONE WHO HAS MADE THE LORD HIS TRUST HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH AN AFFIRMATION OF THE REALITY OF HIS NEED AND THE LORD'S THOUGHTFULNESS TOWARD HIM, 40:17.

- (Psalm 40:17 ESV) **As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me.** You are

my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God!

a. He affirms his need.

b. He affirms the precious, wonderful nature of the LORD's thoughts toward him.

- (Psalm 40:5 ESV) **You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;** none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

- (Psalm 139:17–18 ESV) **How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! 18 If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you.**

- (Isaiah 55:8–9 ESV) **For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.** 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

- (Romans 8:27 ESV) **And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.**

c. He affirms that God is his help and deliverer.

- (Psalm 46:1 ESV) God is our refuge and strength, **a very present help in trouble.**

- (Psalm 145:18 ESV) **The LORD is near to all who call on him,** to all who call on him in truth.

- (Deuteronomy 4:7 ESV) For what great nation is there **that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us,** whenever we call upon him?

- (Psalm 94:17–19 NLT) **Unless the LORD had helped me, I would soon have settled in the silence of the grave. 18 I cried out, "I am slipping!" but your unfailing love, O LORD, supported me. 19 When doubts filled my mind, your comfort gave me renewed hope and cheer.**