

Luke 23:50–56 (ESV)

⁵⁰Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man,

⁵¹who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God.

⁵²This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

⁵³Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid.

⁵⁴It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.

⁵⁵The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid.

⁵⁶Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

“The Redeemed Grace of Waiting”

Waiting is Expectation

Of the list of Joseph’s qualities here relative to his relationship with God, which one is the most crucial to him? To us?

How is our waiting for the Lord different than our waiting for anything or anyone else?

What’s the quality of expectation in our relationship to Christ?

Waiting is Preparation

Joseph’s and the women’s preparations required a great hope and faith... What informed their hope and faith as they made preparations for the burial of their dead Messiah?

What was the key to Abraham’s hope and faith as he took his son Isaac, the promised child, to sacrifice him on Mount Moriah? (Gen. 22)

What is key to our hope and faith as we continue on in the face, at times, of despair and discouragement?