Praise the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! Let’s take a moment to reflect together on some life giving words from our God.

There was a time when the apostle Peter was invited as a guest to the home of a man named Simon (Acts 10). On one occasion, Peter became very hungry so hungry, in fact, that it seemed unusual, possibly because he hadn’t eaten since the previous day (Acts 10:9). When mealtime came, he needed something to eat. The timing is significant: it was about noon, the sixth hour, which was a traditional time for prayer among Jews (Mark 15:33; Acts 3:1). This highlights that Peter’s hunger coincided with a sacred moment of spiritual discipline.

The Vision and Its Significance:

Instead of merely satisfying his physical hunger, Peter used this waiting time to enter into prayer and fellowship with God. While praying, he fell into a trance and received a profound vision that would shape the early Church’s understanding of salvation.

Here’s the passage from the English Standard Version (ESV):

> Acts 10:9-13 (ESV)

> *“The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. And he became hungry and wanted to eat, but while they were preparing something, he fell into a trance. And he saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners, and it came down to him. And there were in it all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air. And there came a voice to him: ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.'”*

Theologically, this vision reveals the breaking down of the Jewish-Gentile barrier. Peter’s initial hesitation to eat “unclean” animals symbolizes the early Church’s struggle to accept Gentiles into the covenant community. God was teaching Peter that salvation through Jesus Christ is for all peoples, not just the Jews (Acts 10:34-35). This moment marked a pivotal expansion of the Gospel and the beginning of the Church’s mission to the Gentiles.

Application for Our Waiting Times:

What stands out is Peter’s choice to dedicate his waiting time to God, even in his physical weakness. Instead of wasting time, he entered a spiritual encounter that transformed the course of history.

Today, many Christians find their time with God disrupted by waiting for physical or earthly things whether it’s school, jobs, marriage, or promotion. But waiting doesn’t have to be wasted.

- Waiting to start school? Use that time to seek God’s face (Psalm 27:8, NIV: “My heart says of you, ‘Seek his face!’”) and serve in His work.
- Waiting for a job? Instead of despairing, engage in ministry, share the Gospel (Matthew 28:19-20), and deepen your spiritual walk.
- Waiting for marriage? Like Peter, focus on growing spiritually while God prepares your future spouse (Proverbs 3:5-6).
- Waiting for success or promotion? Invest time in kingdom work (Matthew 6:33), rather than chasing worldly favor.

Biblical Encouragement:

Remember, the apostles also faced waiting periods. Yet, they used those times wisely, leading to the birth of the Church and the spread of the Gospel (Acts 2). Waiting is part of God’s process to prepare us and reveal deeper truths.

Paul encourages believers in:

> Romans 8:25 (NIV)
> *“But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.”*

And James reminds us:

> James 1:4 (ESV)
> *“Let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”*

Don’t allow waiting periods to steal your time with God or distract you from His purpose. Let your hunger for success, marriage, or breakthrough never push God aside. Instead, embrace the waiting as a sacred season for prayer, growth, and revelation.

May the Lord bless you richly as you faithfully use your waiting times for His glory.

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