In God Is Our Hope
Isaiah 30:15

Objective: Persuade people to quietly trust God and wait for Him, doing things His way.

Reading: Proverbs 3:5-12

Memory: Isaiah 30:15, “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength,”

Introduction:
1. **Story 1**: George and Mary have been dating for a long time. Neither has a really good job. When they get married they want a really big wedding. Can’t afford it right now. What should they do? God says wait. World says move in together now and save money.

2. **Story 2**: You really want to drive your car to the movies tonight. Not an emergency, but you really want to go and some friends are urging you to drive. Your license has been suspended and legally you can’t. God’s word says “Obey the civil law.” World says, “It’s okay as long as you don’t get caught.”

3. How many times do you know how God wants you to handle something, but it just doesn’t appear to be working so you jump out and do it yourself, your own way?

We need to wait on God and do things his way in his time. *(WHY?)*

In Isaiah 30, the nation Israel has gotten nervous. They are tired of waiting for God’s way to work for them. They are in the process of taking matters in to their own hands. They have been under the tyrant rule the Assyrians for years. Taxes are heavy. They want relief. God has told them to wait. They don’t understand, but God has a reason for their current suffering and struggles. They want out now and they think they see their chance. Assyria looks as if it is deteriorating. Meanwhile they are receiving very enticing proposals from Egypt in the South. Egypt looks as if it is on the rise to be the next world power. “What great friends and allies they will be for us.”

Folks are running around trying to use all their wisdom and wiles and put together a good alliance. They are scurrying, trying so hard to do it their way. Read with me and hear the lessons that have been recorded for our benefit. See why people need to wait and do things God’s way. Read Isaiah 30:1-18.

God speaks to Israel and exhorts them with a truth principle that we also need to hear when we are anxious and worried about our own problems. He tells them in verse 15, that their;

I. Safety lies in “repentance” and “rest”.

Verse 15. “This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.” *(NAS salvation reads safety = world context)*

A. What problems make you anxious?
   1. What is it that you fear? Where are you not “safe”?
   2. “I’m afraid I’m going to lose my job.”
   4. “I don’t know how to handle it when people tease me.”
   5. “I want to have an intimate relationship but we can’t get married yet.”

B. The first step toward safety is repentance.
   1. Lit. to turn or to return. God is waiting for you to “turn” to Him. Here is safety!
   2. Whatever problem you are worried about or struggling with, make sure that you look to God and proceed according to God’s plan. Isaiah 30:1. “Woe to the obstinate children,” declares the LORD, “to those who carry out plans that are not mine, forming an alliance, but not by my Spirit, heaping sin upon sin;”
   3. If you have been wandering off and approaching it by your own feelings, your own plan, or by the apparent wisdom of other people, STOP! Right now STOP. Reconsider. Find out what God’s plan is and follow in His way. Turn to Him for direction.
   4. In getting along with your spouse. Raising your children.
   5. Dealing with conflict in politics, school, workplace.
   6. Getting yourself to Heaven!
   7. Anything else! Everything else.
C. What does God mean that safety lies in “REST”?
1. It means that sometimes you need to do nothing. Let God work it.
2. If you tie into it your way you are going to mess it up!
3. Like trying to repair your own car when you don’t understand it.
4. Like trying to untangle the backlash on a fishing real; Let someone with confident patience do it. If you hurry, rush, you tighten it and really mess. REST!
5. I’ll do it my way; I’m going to punch them out. Proverb 15:1, “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”
6. If you try to “force” someone to give you a job, to treat you more kindly, to turn to Christ, you will really mess it up. Relax, let your light shine, and do it God’s way.

Are you unable to handle a situation? Are you inadequate? Not big enough or strong enough? Where will you find the force with which to succeed? For those with God on their side,

II. Strength lies in “quietness” and “trust”. Verse 15, “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength,”

A. What are you struggling so hard with? What are you wearing yourself out with?
1. Why are you lying awake at night? What are you losing sleep over? Bills? Conflicts? The behavior or safety of your kids. Those are wearisome things!
2. What troubles your heart so? What drains you all your emotional energy?
3. If it is something easy, something you already know how God expects you to respond, get going and do what is right. If it is too much, wait for God! He is alive and active and able.
4. Psalm 46:10, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”
5. God is saying; “Be Quiet!” Know that God is watching and aware and capable.

B. How can strength come from “quietness”?
1. Quietness gives you time to think. Gives you time to pray. Makes time to let God work. It makes time for a renewing of our minds. A refreshing of our spirit. It lets you step back out of the way and let Someone who knows what to do step in.
2. Paul experienced and knew this, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, “But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. “That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”
3. It is true for each of us as well. Be quiet. Wait. Endure. Let God do His stuff.

C. Do we even know how to TRUST?
1. Have you ever trusted anyone? Placed real confidence in them?
2. Who do you know that is absolutely trustworthy? Generally we trust folks to a certain extent, but not fully. Do you have absolute trust in your doctor or do you outthink her? Tax consultant. Lawyer?
3. People frequently fail us, but God is absolutely dependable.
4. Romans 10:11, “As the Scripture says, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.”
5. He knows all things. Plans all things. See all things. He is the Creator and Sustainer. He has all authority and power. He genuinely cares. He is the One Who Can. He succeeds and wins.
6. It is better to have a little trust in God who is incredibly strong than to have powerful trust in self or other person that is incredibly weak.
7. If God tells you to walk across on the 4x4 that looks scary and weak and dangerous, and you want to walk across on the 16 inch beam that looks strong to you, you had better choose the way He says. He sees what you do not. He knows something you do not.
8. Matthew 17:20, “… I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” With the power of God!
D. Are you trusting God or trusting yourself?
   1. **2 Corinthians 3: 4-5.** "Such confidence we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God."
   3. Of the two choices, (your way or God’s way) who is really the more trustworthy?

Wherever you are, whatever your distress, realize what the Israelites needed to realize, that Almighty

**III. God is wanting to help.**  
**Verse 18.** “Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!”

A. God **desires** to help and do good for you!
   1. Sometimes this is not people’s concept of God. We get a concept of a mean, vindictive God. A God holding us by a thread, looking for an excuse to drop us into hell. One who loves to threaten.
   2. Or an irrelevant God who doesn’t care. Set the world in motion and left us on our own.
   3. These concepts are wrong. God does challenge and test to see if we will be faithful. He does discipline us for our own good. He does use us in difficult ways to accomplish spiritual goals, like Christ on the cross to defeat Satan.
   4. But God is on our side. He wants us to be His. He IS love even when love must be tough.
   5. He is a kind, loving, heavenly Father who wants us to succeed.
   6. Sometimes God doesn’t take away what we fear because in the over-all scheme, our fear is silly. Dad knows the kid has no need to be afraid to touch a frog.
   7. Sometimes He doesn’t take it away because He wants us to grow through it. Like a Dad who could get you excused from writing a term paper, but let’s you do it so you will grow and mature.
   8. Some of the things we struggle with are for our spiritual growth and maturing. For our good.

B. God is **able** to help and do good for you.
   1. Whatever problem you are struggling with, God wants to help, is able to help.
   2. He knows what is going on. He knows what is best. We just need to turn to Him and let Him!
   3. Sometimes we don’t want to do it his way we are like the man who fell over the cliff. Called for help and God answered; “Just drop, I’ll catch you”. The man hollered, “Anybody else up there?”

So What?
   What are you struggling with? What are you worried about? What are you working so hard over? What do you have doubts about? **Life doesn’t need to be so tough.** Relax. Rest. Belong to God. Do everything His way, and know that everything will ultimately be in good shape because **God is in charge and He can handle it.** If we are on God’s side, we ultimately win - ALWAYS!

**Closing Prayer:**
In God Is Our Hope  
Isaiah 30:15

**Reading:** Proverbs 3:5-12.  
**Memory:** Isaiah 30:15

“I _ r _ a _ r _ i _ y _ s_ _s_, i_ q_ a _ t_ i_ y _ s_”

**We need to wait on God and do things his way in his time.**  
Why people need to wait and do things God’s way.

**I. Safety lies in “repentance” and “rest”.**  

A. What problems make you anxious?  

B. The first step toward safety is repentance.  

C. What does God mean that safety lies in “REST”?  

**II. Strength lies in “quietness” and “trust”.**  

A. What are you struggling so hard with?  

B. How can strength come from “quietness”?  

C. Do we even know how to TRUST?  

D. Are you trusting God or trusting yourself?  

**III. God is wanting to help.**  

A. God *desires* to help and do good for you!  

B. God is *able* to help and do good for you.

**So What?**  
Life doesn’t need to be so tough. God is in charge. He can handle it.