

SILENT SATURDAY

An Easter Devotional

2026

Waiting in the Quiet

Silent Saturday—often called Holy Saturday—is the quiet space between the sorrow of Good Friday and the celebration of Easter Sunday. The cross has already happened, but the resurrection has not yet been revealed. For the disciples, it was a day of confusion, grief and waiting.

The gospels do not record much about this day. That silence itself speaks volumes. Jesus had been crucified, His body lay in a borrowed tomb, and a heavy stone rolled across the entrance. Roman guards stood watch. To the disciples, everything must have seemed finished. Their hopes felt buried along with Him.

Just days before, they had walked with Jesus through the streets of Jerusalem as crowds shouted *Hosanna!* They believed the kingdom of God was about to be revealed in power. But now their Teacher was gone. The One who calmed storms, healed the sick, and raised the dead had been executed like a criminal. Fear, sorrow and uncertainty likely filled their hearts.

Silent Saturday reminds us that faith often includes seasons of waiting. Sometimes God seems quiet. Our prayers feel unanswered. Our circumstances appear unchanged. We know God's promises, but we cannot yet see how they will come to pass.

The disciples were living in that space—the tension between promise and fulfillment.

Yet even in the silence, God was still at work.

Though the world seemed still, the story of redemption was moving forward. The cross had already secured victory over sin. The resurrection was already certain in God's plan. What felt like an ending was actually the turning point of history.

Silent Saturday teaches us that God often works in ways we cannot immediately see. When the disciples looked at the sealed tomb, they saw defeat. But God saw the dawn of resurrection.

Many believers experience their own *Silent Saturday* moments in life—times when prayers seem unanswered, when grief lingers, when direction feels unclear. These seasons can feel lonely and uncertain. Yet the message of Holy Saturday reminds us that God's silence is not His absence.

Waiting is not wasted in the hands of God.

The disciples did not know that joy was only hours away. They could not yet imagine the empty tomb, the risen Christ, or the world-changing message they would soon proclaim. In their grief, the miracle was already approaching.

That truth gives us hope today. When life feels quiet and uncertain, God is still faithful to His promises. The silence we experience is often the space where God is preparing something greater than we can see.

Silent Saturday invites us to trust in God even when the outcome is hidden. It calls us to remain faithful in the waiting, believing that the same God who raised Jesus from the dead is still at work in our lives.

The tomb may feel closed today, but resurrection morning is coming.

And when God moves, the silence will give way to joy.

PRAYER: Lord, today feels quiet as I remember this day between the cross and the resurrection. It reminds me of the moments in my own life when I'm waiting, and You seem silent, and I'm not sure what You're doing. Help me trust that even in the stillness, You are at work in ways I cannot yet see. I give You my questions and my fears, and I thank You for the love You already showed at the cross. Teach my heart to wait with hope, believing that Your life and light are always on the way. Amen.