Doing Time in Machaerus

Luke 7:18-23
John’s disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, he sent them to the Lord to ask, “Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?” When the men came to Jesus, they said, “John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, ‘Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?’” At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind.
So he replied to the messengers, “Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me.” Luke 7:18-23
The Fortress of Machaerus
3 Principles for Thriving in Machaerus (seasons of doubt):
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1. Embrace Expectancy (v. 18-20)
Expectancy is the conviction that no matter what comes into your life, God is for you; and you can trust him because he has a perfect plan in everything.
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Expectation is the opposite of expectancy. Expectation says, “God owes me... I deserve better... I’m entitled to more.”
The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Christ. John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.  Luke 3:15-16
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vs. 19, “should we expect someone else?”
Expectancy looks at life’s obstacles and sees God’s opportunities.
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Expectancy takes our pains and looks to God’s promises.
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Expectancy encounters trials and trusts God for triumphs.
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2. Hold On to Our Hope (v. 21-22)
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Jesus’ response was two-fold:
1. He showed them evidence; and
2. He pointed them to Scripture.
How do we hold on to our hope in the midst of seasons of doubt?
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1. Look to the evidence
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2. Look to the word (Ps. 119:105; 2 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 4:12)
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God doesn’t always show up in the way we expect.
Humbling yourself before Jesus is about recognizing that...
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• Jesus may not be what you want, but he is what you need (John 14:6).
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- Jesus may not be what you want, but he is what you need (John 14:6).
- His plans might be hard to get, but they’re always good (Romans 8:28).