

PATIENCE, PATIENT, PATIENTLY

God was very **patient** with Gideon. Not only did He give him two signs (the wet and dry fleeces), but He also told him that if he was still afraid after both of those signs he could go down to the Midianites and hear what they were saying.

- **Judges 7:9-11:** "And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Arise, get thee down unto the host; for I have delivered it into thine hand. But if thou fear to go down, go thou with Phurah thy servant down to the host: And thou shalt hear what they say; and afterward shall thine hands be strengthened to go down unto the host. Then went he down with Phurah his servant unto the outside of the armed men that were in the host."

When the wicked prosper or succeed, we must wait **patiently** for the Lord.

- **Psalms 37:7:** "Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass."

We must wait **patiently** for the Lord.

- **Psalms 40:1:** "I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry."

It's better to be **patient** than proud.

- **Ecclesiastes 7:8:** "Better is the end of a thing than the

beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit."

It's important to be **patient** when doing things in this life. Sometimes we may not see the results for a long time.

- **Ecclesiastes 11:1:** "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days."

We must learn **patience** so we can endure times of suffering.

- **Lamentations 3:19, 25:** "Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. ... The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him."

Habakkuk waited **patiently** for God to answer him.

- **Habakkuk 2:1:** "I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved."

Sometimes God gives a prophecy and then tells us to wait **patiently** for it to come to pass.

- **Habakkuk 2:3:** "For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry."

The saints of God must wait **patiently** for the day when He will judge the wicked nations of this world and destroy them.

- **Zephaniah 3:8:** "Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy."

In this parable, when the king commanded that his servant be sold into slavery to pay his debt, the servant asked the king to be **patient** and promised that he would pay what he owed. (However, the servant was lying. There was no way he could ever have possibly paid the debt. It was much too large.)

- **Matthew 18:24, 26:** "And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. ... The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all."

We must be **patient** and wait for people to grow so that they might bear fruit.

- **Mark 4:28:** "For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear."

In order for us to bear fruit, we must be **patient**.

- **Luke 8:15:** "But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience."

We must patiently endure suffering and persecution.

- **Luke 21:12, 19:** "But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. ... In your patience possess ye your souls."

Paul asked King Agrippa to hear what he had to say **patiently**.

- **Acts 26:1, 3:** "Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Thou art permitted to speak for thyself. Then Paul stretched forth the hand, and answered for himself: ... Especially because I know thee to be expert in all customs and questions which are among the Jews: wherefore I beseech thee to hear me patiently."

The saints are those who are **patient**, and who continue to do well in spite of the pressures and temptations of this world.

- **Romans 2:7:** "To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:"

The way to obtain **patience** is by enduring trials.

- **Romans 5:3:** "And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;"

In order to develop hope we must have experience. That comes from **patience**, which comes from the trials of this life. This means that ultimately the trials of this life, if endured, produce hope.

- **Romans 5:3-4:** " And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope:"

Experience comes through **patience**.

- **Romans 5:4:** "And patience, experience; and experience, hope:"

We must **patiently** wait for God's promises to come to pass. (That's what it means to have faith.)

- **Romans 8:25:** "But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it."

When we **patiently** enduring the trials and sufferings of this life and continue having faith in God's love, we are more that conquerors.

- **Romans 8:36-37:** " As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

We must be **patient** in suffering.

- **Romans 12:12:** "Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;"

If you seek hope then you need to learn **patience**.

- **Romans 15:4:** "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

God is the God of **patience**.

- **Romans 15:5:** "Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus:"

Paul believed that his suffering could provide consolation to the Corinthians. This is because they could see him as an example of **patiently** enduring persecution, and that would strengthen them when they were persecuted.

- **2 Corinthians 1:6:** "And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation."

In order to be approved as a worker of God, we must be **patient**.

- **2 Corinthians 6:4:** "But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,"

Paul was very **patient** with the Corinthian church.

- **2 Corinthians 12:12:** "Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds."

The Spirit enables us to **patiently** wait and continue to hope.

- **Galatians 5:5:** "For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith."

The ability to **patiently** endure suffering comes from having the Holy Spirit dwell within us. We need the Spirit to do that.

- **Galatians 5:22:** "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,"

Christians must learn to **patiently** endure trials for long periods of time.

- **Ephesians 4:2:** "With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;"

Paul wanted the Colossian church to be **patient**.

- **Colossians 1:11:** "Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;"

Paul didn't teach that God promised prosperity and an easy life. Instead he told the Colossian church that they needed to be **patient** and learn how to joyfully endure times of suffering.

- **Colossians 1:11:** "Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;"

Christians must show forbearance to one another. (This means being **patient** when dealing with annoyances.)

- **Colossians 3:13:** "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."

Churches should be characterized by **patience**.

- **1 Thessalonians 1:3:** "Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;"

The doctrines of the end times were important to Paul. He wanted the Thessalonian church to know that Jesus was going to return, and that they needed to be actively and **patiently** waiting for Him.

- **1 Thessalonians 1:10:** "And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come."

Christians must be **patient** toward everyone.

- **1 Thessalonians 5:14:** "Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men."

When a church **patiently** endures persecution, other churches should recognize that and be encouraged by their example.

- **2 Thessalonians 1:4:** "So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your

persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:"

When we suffer, God requires us to **patiently** endure it. If we do that then we're counted worthy to enter into His kingdom.

- **2 Thessalonians 1:4-5:** " So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:"

Paul told the Thessalonian church to **patiently** endure persecution and wait for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **2 Thessalonians 1:7:** "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,"

Paul taught that it was God's will for the Thessalonian church to be persecuted. He encouraged the church and told them to **patiently** endure what God had called them to do.

- **2 Thessalonians 1:11:** "Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:"

Jesus is going to return. Our job is to **patiently** wait for that day.

- **2 Thessalonians 3:5:** "And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ."

Bishops (elders) must be **patient**.

- **1 Timothy 3:3:** "Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;"

Patience is better than the riches of this world.

- **1 Timothy 6:10-11:** " For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness."

God requires His servants to be **patient**.

- **2 Timothy 2:24:** "And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,"

Paul did more than just teach Timothy the doctrines of God. He also showed Timothy how he lived his life. In other words, he shared his faith with Timothy and then publicly demonstrated that faith through **patience** and longsuffering.

- **2 Timothy 3:10:** "But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,"

Paul commanded elderly men to be **patient**.

- **Titus 2:2:** "That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience."

Christians inherit God's promises through **patience**.

- **Hebrews 6:12:** "That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises."
- **Hebrews 10:36:** "For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise."

Abraham obtained the promise of God after he **patiently** endured.

- **Hebrews 6:13-15:** " For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself, Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee. And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise."

We must be **patient** and wait for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Hebrews 10:36-37:** " For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry."

We must patiently wait for God to fulfill His **promises**. We must not draw back or turn away.

- **Hebrews 10:38:** "Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him."

We must learn to be **patient**.

- **Psalm 37:34:** "Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it."
- **Hebrews 12:1:** "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,"

The testing of our faith produces **patience**.

- **James 1:3:** "Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience."

A Christian who lacks **patience** is lacking something important and isn't perfect.

- **James 1:4:** "But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

Christians must **patiently** wait for the justice that Jesus will bring when He returns.

- **James 5:7:** "Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain."

Farmers wait for their crops to yield fruit. They have **patience** while their crops are growing.

- **James 5:7:** "Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain."

Christians must **patiently** wait for the Lord Jesus Christ to return.

- **James 5:8:** "Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."

The prophets of the Old Testament serve as examples for us. Even though they spoke in God's name, they were afflicted. They suffered with **patience** and are examples of remaining faithful through affliction.

- **James 5:10:** "Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience."

It's good to **patiently** endure affliction.

- **James 5:11:** "Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy."

Job was **patient**.

- **James 5:11:** "Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy."

It's acceptable to God when Christians **patiently** endure suffering (for doing what's right in His sight).

- **1 Peter 2:20:** "For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God."

Christians are commanded to be **patient**.

- **2 Peter 1:6:** "And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;"

Patience should abound in the life of each Christian.

- **2 Peter 1:6, 8:** " And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; ... For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The apostle John spoke of the **patience** of Jesus Christ. This seems to be a reference to patiently enduring trials while waiting for the Lord to return.

- **Revelation 1:9:** "I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ."

Jesus said that the church of Ephesus was **patient**.

- **Revelation 2:1-2:** " Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:"

Jesus said that the church of Thyatira was **patient**.

- **Revelation 2:18-19:** " And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass; I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first."

Jesus said that the church of Philadelphia **patiently** kept His word.

- **Revelation 3:7, 10:** " And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; ... Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth."

During the tribulation the saints will need **patience** and faith. These will be vital because God will give the antichrist the power to wage war against them and kill them.

- **Revelation 13:7, 10:** " And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. ... He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints."

God didn't tell the saints that He would protect them during the tribulation. Instead He told them to **patiently** endure persecution, suffering, and death (because all those who take the mark of the beast will be tormented for all eternity).

- **Revelation 14:9, 11-12:** " And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, ... And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."