

The Power of Patient Waiting

"Yet those who *wait* for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary." <u>Isaiah 40:31</u>

"Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with <u>endurance</u> the race that is set before us." <u>Hebrews 12:1</u>

"The end of a matter is better than its beginning; <u>patience</u> of spirit is better than haughtiness of spirit. Do not be eager in your heart to be angry, for anger resides in the bosom of fools." <u>Ecclesiastes 7:8-9</u>

"Rest in the LORD and <u>wait patiently</u> for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who carries out wicked schemes. Cease from anger and forsake wrath; do not fret; it leads only to evildoing. For evildoers will be cut off, but those who <u>wait</u> for the LORD, they will inherit the land. <u>Psalm 37:7-9</u>

"And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about *perseverance*, and *perseverance*, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us." <u>Romans 5:3-5</u>

"Knowing that the testing of your faith produces <u>endurance</u>. And let <u>endurance</u> have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." <u>James 1:3-4</u>

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, *patience*, kindness, goodness, faithfulness" <u>Galatians 5:22</u>

The Warrior's Heart A Heart of Patience

The <u>testing of your faith</u> produces patience; Let patience have her perfect work, that you may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. James 1:3-4

A. Biblical Words Used for Patience

Patience	Longsuffering
Endure	Steadfast
Wait	Persevere

B. What is Biblical Patience?

1. The Godly response to pressure *Rom 5:3; Jam 1:2-3 Glory under pressure... Patience is a choice...*

2. The process of becoming strong in the Lord God is a God of patience...*Rom 15:5*

Patience: A fruit of the Spirit life...Gal 5:16

Love is patient...1 Cor 14:4

Pressure, patience and power...Isa 40:31

- C. What Does Patience Do In My Life?
 - **1. Strength to fulfill God's purpose in my life** *Heb 12:1-3, (2 Tim 4:5-7)*
 - 2. Strength to fulfill my responsibility to others Eph 4:1-3, (Col 3:12-13)
- D. Patience: The Agricultural Model James 5:7-12

Former and latter rains...

Establish patience in your heart...

Sermon Notes Pastor Mike Bayer

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Warrior's Heart: Patience

What if I showed you just ONE THING that you could do—starting right now—that would guarantee that you would have perfect confidence, strength in your body, soul and spirit and be totally satisfied with your life and what God was doing in and through you. Would you be interested?

The <u>testing of your faith</u> produces patience. Let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. James 1:4

Patience is a virtue, Possess it if you can. Found seldom in a woman, Never in a man. Men and women view differently Big picture Compartmentalize

A. Biblical Words used for Patience

Patient-Longsuffering-Endure Steadfast-Wait-Persevere

→ Patience/endurance regarding circumstances and events
→ Patience/endurance regarding people and relationships

Macro-thumos; long and soul/spirit = Longsuffering w/people--<u>A welling up inside</u>, <u>a strong passion, stronger then anger—holding out under trial with people</u>.

B. What is Biblical Patience?

1. The Godly response to pressure Romans 5:3 – James 1:2-3

Glory under pressure...faith under pressure

Rom 5:3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;

The Greek word for <u>tribulation</u> is "<u>pressure</u>." It is an outside force that pushes on you and exerts pressure on you to yield and conform to it. Paul tells us that we can *GLORY-REJOYCE* in these pressures as believers because of what they produce. The pressures of life, says Paul, are used by God to produce perseverance.

<u>God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him</u>! John Piper "Desiring God"

Patience is a choice...

Jam 1:2 <u>Consider</u> it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance

Consider/count-this word means to 'reckon,' declare or pronounce over something!

Paul said in **Rom 6:11** "Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus."

A declaration beyond what I may feel....a statement of FAITH

This is the quality of a person who when faced with problems he has no control over and to which his only responses are either to <u>endure with anger (worry-fear-tormentanxiety)</u> or to <u>endure with patience</u> chooses to endure with patience.

2. The process of becoming strong in the Lord

There are NO short cuts to patience for those who are being trained by pressure: USMC "leaning wall—"

James 1:3 Knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience...

God is a God of patience... Rom 5:5

KJV Rom15:5 Now the God of <u>patience</u> and consolation (encouragement) grant you to be likeminded (have the same mind) one toward another according to Christ Jesus:

Patience is the fruit of the Spirit life...

Gal 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, <u>patience</u>, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Love is patient...

1Co 13:4 Love is patient _____ is patient...

Pressure, patience and power...GETTING OVER THE WALL * * NOTE: See story at end of notes!

Isa 40:31 Yet those who <u>wait</u> for the LORD Will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk

and not become weary.

Those that wait on their parents; employer; kids; church; pastor; counselor; pay check; tomorrow...will NOT gain new strength.

C. What does patience do in my life?

1. Strength to fulfill God's purpose in my life

Heb 12:1-3, (2 Tim 4:5-7)

NASB Heb 12:1-3 Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let <u>us run with endurance</u> the race that is set before us, <u>fixing our eyes on Jesus</u>, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

2. Strength to fulfill my responsibility to others

Eph 4:1-3, *Col 3*:12-13

Eph 4:1-3 Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with <u>patience</u>, showing <u>tolerance for one another in love</u>, being diligent to <u>preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace</u>.

The key verse to surviving family relationships....

D. Patience: The Agricultural Model

James 5:7-12

Former and latter rains....

Jam 5:7 Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains.

Dependence on something out of my control to bring about the fruit...here rain

Establish patience in your hearts...

Jam 5:8 Be ye also patient; establish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

Establish/strengthen here is "stay-rid-zo" to turn with a purpose—fix your heart on!

Look at the wall (USMC) and don't give up....

* Getting over the wall!

I was in the US Marine Corps from 1964-68. During boot camp, the leaning wall on the obstacle course was a real challenge for me. The wall leaned toward you and you had to jump up and hang on the wall and pull yourself over with all of your combat gear.

I've always been tall and lean with NOT a lot of upper body strength. As hard as I tried I could not pull my self over that wall during our training—let alone with all of my combat gear.

One of my drill instructors suggested that I jump up—hang on the wall—and then swing back and forth so I could hook the heal of my boot on the wall and then use my leg strength to pull me over.

Day after day I ran at that wall—hung there like a slab of beef but never could pull myself over—but I worked at it every day while the drill instructors called me names I can't repeat.

The final testing day arrived and if I could not get over that wall 'today' I risked getting put back a few weeks in boot camp—not something you want to do. I prayed and asked God to help me get over that wall—I ran at it with full combat gear, hung there, swung back and forth and to my amazement my heal hooked the top of the wall and I pulled my self over.

A few of my fellow Marines did not get over the wall that day—while I tried every day and the drill instructors yelled at me—a few recruits ran around the wall. What they missed was being trained by the wall. The trial of the wall strength-ened me for the day I would get over it.

Trained by the Wall – Trained by Our Trials

Often it is the things in our lives that are the hardest that cause the greatest amount of 'developing strength' when we push at them everyday—never giving up but trusting God for the outcome!

Then when it really matters that you get over that wall—graduation day—you will have been trained by the wall and you will get over it. Graduation day may be a persons salvation, the day you gain a great victory, the day you press through for a miracle!