

# Faith And Patience

Prepared by: Pastor Blaine G. Smith

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## Scripture Study

There are three Greek words translated **patience** in the King James New Testament. They are listed below. Keep this in mind as you study this lesson.

### Patience

**3114** makrothumeo to be long-spirited, i.e. (objectively) forbearing or (subjectively) patient.

**5281** hupomone cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy, continuance, perseverance.

**3115** makrothumia forbearance or (subjectively) fortitude.

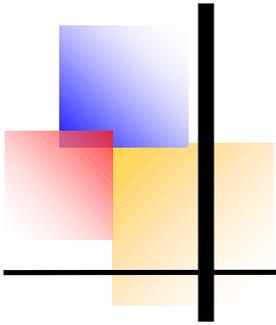
† The definition most Christians have of patience is to lay down and wait until whatever is on them decides to get off. They usually end up being a spiritual door mat for the devil. Remember afflictions and persecutions come to try and take away the Word that was sown in your heart. Every promise of God will be met with resistance. We are told to "fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses". (1 Tim 6:12) We have to take hold of the promise, we have to fight. We have been given authority in the name of Jesus to overcome anything and everything that the devil would try to do to us. God's promises are received by faith. We are told to fight the good fight of faith, so there has to be hindrances to faith. Our receiving depends on our ability to stay focused on the promise. Having done all to stand, stand. It is in this standing time that most give up. They pray, believe the promise then after 2 or 3 days they give up. This is where patience comes in. The type of patience we are going to focus on would better be translated perseverance, endurance, constancy, continuance, steadfastness.

**1 Timothy 6:11** But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, **patience**, **(5281)** meekness. KJV

**1 Timothy 6:11** But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, **endurance** and gentleness. NIV

**1 Timothy 6:11** But as for you, O man of God, flee from all these things; aim at and pursue righteousness (right standing with God and true goodness), godliness (which is the loving fear of God and being Christlike), **faith, love steadfastness (patience), and gentleness of heart.** AMP

† Notice the list of heavyweight characteristics that we are told to follow after. Patience is among the list.



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**Hebrews 6:12** That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and **patience (3115)** inherit the promises. KJV

**Hebrews 6:12** We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised. NIV

✠ Paul said through faith and patience we inherit the promise. Or you could say it this way, through faith, forbearance and fortitude we inherit the promises. What are the promises Paul is referring to? "That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." (Gal 3:14) Every promise found in the Word of God is received through the power twins of faith and patience. Faith is the substance and the evidence of the promise. Patience is what causes your faith to stay focused on the mountain for however long it takes for the mountain to be removed. I thought it was interesting that Paul told us not to be lazy but imitate those who through faith and patience inherited the promise. Apparently it takes effort on our part to receive what is promised.

## James 1:3-4

3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh **patience. (5281)** 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. KJV

## James 1:3-4

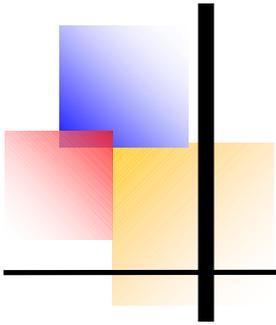
3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops **perseverance.** 4 **Perseverance** must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. NIV

## James 1:3-4

3 Be assured and understand that the trial and proving of your faith bring out endurance and steadfastness and patience. 4 But let endurance and steadfastness and patience have full play and do a thorough work, so that you may be [people] perfectly and fully developed [with no defects], lacking in nothing.

AMP

✠ When cheerful endurance, perseverance, steadfastness and consistency are fully developed you will be mature and complete with no defects and lacking nothing. The opposition to your faith is what develops patience. The opposition in and of itself is not what develops patience, it is what you do with the opposition that develops patience. You could lay a set of barbells on your chest until they kill you. It's not the weights that build you up it is what you do with the weights that build you up. When we stand on any promise of God opposition [or the devil] will come. We must submit to God [Word] and resist the opposition [devil]. As we do this we are building the spiritual muscle of patience. Faith is built through hearing and meditation on the Word of God.



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**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. (5281)** KJV

**Luke 8:15** But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop. NIV

**Luke 8:15** But as for that [seed] in the good soil, these are [the people] who, hearing the Word, hold it fast in a just (noble, virtuous) and worthy heart, and steadily bring forth fruit with patience. AMP

✠ The Word [or the promise] is the seed. It must be planted in a just, noble, virtuous and worthy heart. The Word will not produce fruit in corrupt soil [heart]. Christians always want instant results. No one expects to plant seed in their garden before they go to bed at night and awake the next day to a harvest. God does perform miracles but that isn't His best way. It takes time to grow a garden and there are many things that will oppose you before the harvest. Steady, constant, consistent joy filled perseverance will bring forth fruit. This is patience.

**Luke 21:19** In your **patience (5281)** possess ye your souls. KJV

**Luke 21:19** By standing firm you will gain life. NIV

**Luke 21:19** By your steadfastness and patient endurance you shall win the true life of your souls. AMP

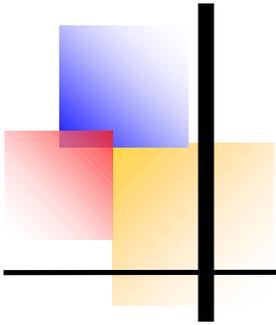
✠ Once again we are taught this time by Jesus that receiving life depends on our steadfastness and endurance. We have an adversary that would like to devour the seed planted in our heart.

## **Romans 5:3-5**

3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh **patience; (5281)** 4 And **patience, (5281)** experience; and experience, hope: 5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. KJV

## **Romans 5:3-5**

3 Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. NIV



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## Romans 5:3-4

3 Moreover [let us also be full of joy now!] let us exult and triumph in our troubles and rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that pressure and affliction and hardship produce patient and unswerving endurance. 4 And endurance (fortitude) develops maturity of character (approved faith and tried integrity). And character [of this sort] produces [the habit of] joyful and confident hope of eternal salvation. AMP

**Romans 5:5** Such hope never disappoints or deludes or shames us, for God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us. AMP

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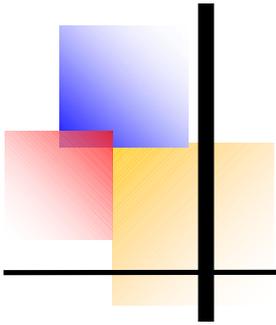
† Remember our suffering is not sin, sickness, disease, poverty or anything Jesus bore for us on the cross that we have been redeemed from. We suffer when we stand against those things we have been redeemed from. Paul said he who has ceased from sin has suffered in the flesh. When we walk according to the Word we must crucify the flesh. This will produce suffering. Persecution for His name sake, loving your enemies, praying for those that spitefully use you, simply walking in love with the unlovely will bring much suffering.

† Tribulation [pressure, affliction, hardship] works [exercises, develops] patience [unswerving endurance, perseverance]. Don't focus on the tribulation, focus rather on overcoming. We are more than conquerors through Him. When patience is developed it produces experience. You can not get experience any other way. Experience produces hope. Hope is what empowers us to get up in the morning. Without hope we have little to live for. Remember the sower? Affliction and persecution comes because of the Word and attempts to take the Word out. Patience is developed when through faith we resist the affliction and persecution. Lifting barbells will produce much suffering but the benefits are worth it.

**Romans 8:25** But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with **patience (5281)** wait for it. KJV Romans

**Romans 8:25** But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. NIV

**Romans 8:25** But if we hope for what is still unseen by us, we wait for it with patience and composure.  
AMP



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✠ We are told to "Fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." (2 Cor 4:18) When we are in need of one or more of the promises they are still unseen. This is where the fight comes in. During this unseen or waiting time we are to have perseverance, endurance, constancy, continuance and steadfastness believing the promise. We receive patient endurance and encouragement from the Word. Without spending time in the Word during this standing time you will give up.

**Romans 15:4** For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through **patience (5281)** and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. KJV

**Romans 15:4** For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. NIV

**Romans 15:4** For whatever was thus written in former days was written for our instruction, that by [our steadfast and patient] endurance and the encouragement [drawn] from the Scriptures we might hold fast to and cherish hope. AMP

**2 Corinthians 6:4** But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much **patience, (5281)** in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, KJV

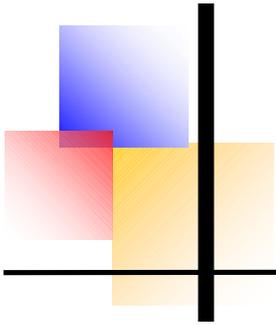
**2 Corinthians 6:4** Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; NIV

✠ No one ever said we wouldn't be faced with hardships, distresses and troubles. Jesus said "In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (Jn 16:33) Many choose to focus on the hardships thus living life in lack and defeat. "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all." (Ps 34:19) Make a choice to focus on the deliverance and the overcoming, not the afflictions.

**2 Corinthians 12:12** Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all **patience, (5281)** in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds. KJV

**2 Corinthians 12:12** The things that mark an apostle-- signs, wonders and miracles-- were done among you with great perseverance. NIV

✠ Patience played a big part in the signs, wonders and miracles of Paul's ministry. He ministered with resolve. Paul was developed in longsuffering, forbearance, fortitude, perseverance and cheerful, hopeful endurance.



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**Colossians 1:11** Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all **patience (5281)** and longsuffering with joyfulness; KJV

**Colossians 1:11** being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully NIV

✠ He will strengthen us with all might according to His glorious power. This is where true endurance, patience and joy comes from. Remember the joy of the Lord is our strength. If you become weary during the standing time joy is your answer. "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Heb 12:2)

**Hebrews 10:36** For ye have need of **patience, (5281)** that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. KJV

**Hebrews 10:36** You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. NIV

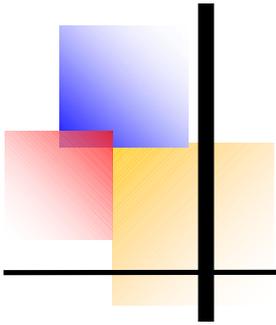
✠ To do the will of God you will have opposition. Faith and patience will keep you moving ahead. After we carry out the will of God the promise comes. Faith is the power or the spiritual muscle that moves the mountain and patience is the power or spiritual muscle that holds up the hands of faith and encourages faith to keep working until the answer comes.

**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 (5281)** the race that is set before us, KJV

**Hebrews 12:1** Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. NIV

✠ Throw off anything that would weight you down and run with patience the race that is marked out for you. It isn't the one who runs the fastest, it is the one that runs constantly that finishes the race.

**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. (3115)** KJV



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**James 5:10** Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. NIV

✠ We are told to "**fight the good fight of faith**" and "**endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.**" There is a militant side to Christianity. We are in a battle for the souls of men. "(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)" War is no picnic, the conditions are harsh and opposing. When we go behind enemy lines we can expect a fight. A good commander will send his best troops into the hardest battles because he knows they can get the job done. They won't crack under pressure and they won't quit until they accomplish the mission. When lives are at stake a good commander doesn't send his sloppy troops in to bring the victory. The prophets knew how to win. The Church is learning how to bring the victory!

**James 5:11** Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the **patience (5281)** of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy. KJV

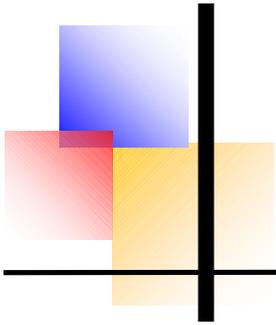
**James 5:11** As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy. NIV

✠ According to James we are to learn two lessons from Job. One, his perseverance is what caused the Lord to bring his deliverance. The other, that the Lord is full of compassion and mercy. Don't use Job to justify failure or an excuse to give up and allow the devil to do as he chooses. Never forget that God blessed Job with twice as much in the end. It is imperative that we understand God is a covenant making God. Job was not under the Abrahamic covenant. Job and Abraham were from different blood lines. Job was before the law of Moses, he couldn't refer to the Old Covenant [Testament] to find the will of God. Job observed an earlier form of worship than that of the separate priesthood which was set in place in Moses' day. God made an individual covenant with Job but no covenant was as far reaching as Abraham's covenant. Today as children of God we are living under the New Covenant established on better promises sealed in the blood of Jesus. We have no grounds to compare Job's relationship with God and our relationship with God. We are born again children of God with access by the name of Jesus to the throne of God. We have been made the righteousness of God in Him. He was Creator to Job, He is Daddy to us.

**Romans 10:17** So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. KJV

✠ Patience comes by the testing of your faith. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God.

**Be followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises!**



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## Study Questions

1. What causes us to inherit the promises?
2. What is developed through the testing and trying of your faith?
3. When endurance, steadfastness and patience is fully developed, what will this cause you to be?
4. Expound on Romans 5:3-5.
5. Comment on Romans 15:4.
6. What causes faith to come?
7. How are we to run the race that is marked out for us?
8. What did God reveal to you as you studied?

## Extra Blessing

(Study to show yourself approved unto God 2 Timothy 2:15)

Hebrews Chapter 11