



Patience & Perseverance (James 5:7-11)

Timing is Everything

“Therefore **be patient**, brethren, **until the coming of the Lord**. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the **early and latter rain**. **You also be patient**. Establish your hearts, **for the coming of the Lord is at hand**. **Do not grumble** against one another, brethren, **lest you be condemned**. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door! My brethren, **take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience**. Indeed **we count them blessed who endure**. You have heard of **the perseverance of Job** and seen **the end intended by the Lord**—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.” James 5:7-11 NKJV

James 5:7-11

- ☑ *“Therefore be **patient, brethren**, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the **precious fruit** of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the **early and latter rain**.”*

You also be patient. ***Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.***” James 5:7-8 NKJV

☑ **Be Patient**

- ☑ I cannot think of a better way to consider patience than to refer back to the beginning of this letter. “*My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.*” James 1:2-4 NKJV

☑ **Perfect and Complete**

- ☑ This is the end goal. We are designed as humans to become like Christ. As a man, he was perfect in every way and lacked nothing.
- ☑ The picture here is that we have the same path as Christ. He was commanded to move into the wilderness for the ultimate testing before His earthly ministry officially began.
- ☑ We too are tested in the wilderness. Each test is designed to purify us by fire, like the dross being removed from precious metals as they are melted into a liquid. The admonition here is that we should be joyful when we are tested (burned, heated, melted), because testing is the impetus for transformation.

☑ Testing—Patience—Perfect Work

- ☑ Two things come to mind here, first the recognition is that it is through much tribulation that we enter the kingdom of heaven.
- ☑ In fact, the gospel of the kingdom, understood in its purest form, is simply the perfect manifestation of God in humans. Isn't that the perfect description of Christ Himself?
- ☑ When we consider what it means to "enter the kingdom", the deeper inference is... "become like Christ."
- ☑ The path to becoming like Christ is through testing, and when we endure and are victorious through the trial, we are purified like gold and silver.
- ☑ The second idea is about "true sons." Those whom God considers legitimate sons are the ones who are tested.
- ☑ Beaten to the point of death, the purifying of precious metals, becoming like Christ.
 - ☑ *"Then Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there; and having persuaded the multitudes, they **stoned Paul** and dragged him out of the city, **supposing him to be dead**. However, when the disciples gathered around him, he rose up and went into the city. And the next day he*

departed with Barnabas to Derbe. And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, **“We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”**” Acts 14:19-22 NKJV

☑ **Perfect through suffering...**

☑ *“For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, **in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.**”* Hebrews 2:10 NKJV

☑ **If you are a legitimate son you are tested, and the outcome is the fruit of righteousness, even if you don’t like the process!**

☑ *“If you endure chastening, **God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?** But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, **then you are illegitimate and not sons.** Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days*

*chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. **Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.***” Hebrews 12:7-11 NKJV

☑ A word on perseverance...

☑ Perseverance: permanent self control.

☑ *“But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, **to self-control perseverance**, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.”* II Peter 1:5-7 NKJV

☑ This is one of my favorite areas of scripture. It is the process of being transformed into the divine image.

☑ It starts with faith and then builds from there.

☑ The process includes virtue, knowledge, and self control. Virtue is knowing God’s heart and will; knowledge is gaining the insight on how to do God’s will, and self-control is doing it. Perseverance is simply permanent self control. Never give up, never stop pursuing and doing God’s will, no matter what.

☑ Perseverance is always part of the process!

☑ *“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith **into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.** And not only that, but we also **glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.** Now hope does **not disappoint**, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.” Romans 5:1-5 NKJV*

☑ Grace is God’s supernatural power.

☑ We stand in that power with our eyes set on the glory of God.

☑ The process always includes trials and tribulation.

☑ We apply God’s grace to our trials on an ongoing, continual and consistent basis.

☑ This is perseverance.

☑ Perseverance will never fail us because it leads to Christlike character and hope.

☑ And hope will never disappoint us!

☑ **The Early and Latter Rain**

- ☑ The early and latter rain is a reference to both the natural seasons and the harvest of two grains, barley and wheat, as well as the feast seasons which are prophetic of God's plan for mankind throughout history (years, seasons of years, and overall linear timeline from creation to eternity).
- ☑ The barley is harvested in the spring and must be "ripe for harvest" before Passover. It is a less mature grain that takes less time to develop.
- ☑ The wheat is harvested in the fall and requires more time and more rain to developed into it mature state (full stature—See Eph. 4). It is the "adult grain of Trumpets, Yom Kippur and Tabernacles!
- ☑ **Wait for precious fruit (at the proper time)**
 - ☑ Wait for it...
 - ☑ *"Do not be afraid, you beasts of the field; For the open pastures are springing up, **And the tree bears its fruit;** The fig tree and the vine yield their strength. Be glad then, you children of Zion, And rejoice in the Lord your God; For **He has given you the former rain faithfully,** And He will cause the rain to come down for you— **The former rain, And the latter rain in the first month.**" Joel 2:22-23 NKJV*

- The Hebrew calendar is separated into two six-month parts, the spring feast season and the fall feast season. The start of each is considered the “first month” and that is why you can have the lighter rains and the heavier rains, both falling in the first month!
- Pentecost in Acts**
 - This is what’s Peter referred to at Pentecost in Acts 2
 - The “former rain” (lighter rain) outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
 - It is the rain that develops the “childlike grain” (spiritual children).
 - But, the latter rain is coming and it will develop the “mature grain” (spiritual adults)!
- Establish your hearts! (Establish: Grow up! “Turn resolutely in a certain direction...”)**
 - Please see: [Baptism on Dry Ground](#) & [Spiritual Violence](#) for teachings on the growth of Christians from spiritual children to spiritual adults.
 - He pours out (rains) His Spirit on all flesh...
 - ““And it shall come to pass afterward That **I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh**; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. [32]...And it shall come to*

*pass **That whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved.** For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, As the Lord has said, Among the remnant whom the Lord calls.” Joel 2:28, 32 NKJV*

☑ Timing and laborers are everything! That is why at Impact Discipleship we are creating excellent Laborers!

☑ “Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest’? Behold, **I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!**” John 4:35 NKJV

☑ “Then He said to them, “**The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few;** therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” Luke 10:2 NKJV

☑ “**Do not grumble** against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, **the Judge is standing at the door!**”
James 5:9 NKJV

☑ **Grumbling and Complaining**

☑ New to the wilderness attitude...

☑ “**Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses** and Aaron in the wilderness. And the children of Israel said to them, “**Oh, that we**

had died by the hand of the Lord **in the land of Egypt**, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.””

Exodus 16:2-3 NKJV

- ☑ The people complained continuously after they exited Egypt. They complained about everything: not having water not having food, etc. They wished they could return to Egypt.
- ☑ New to the promised land attitude...
- ☑ “So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. **And all the children of Israel complained** against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, “**If only we had died in the land of Egypt!** Or if only we had died in this wilderness! Why has the Lord brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? **Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?**” So they said to one another, “Let us select a leader and return to Egypt.”” Numbers 14:1-4 NKJV
- ☑ The people complained after they took a look into the promised land. Again they wished they could return to Egypt.

- ☑ God hates complaining!
- ☑ “Now **when the people complained, it displeased the Lord; for the Lord heard it, and His anger was aroused.** So the fire of the Lord burned among them, and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.” Numbers 11:1 NKJV
- ☑ “**Do all things without complaining and disputing,** that you may **become blameless** and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,” Philippians 2:14-15 NKJV

- ☑ “My brethren, take **the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience.**” James 5:10 NKJV
- ☑ **Example**
- ☑ Jeremiah (the Weeping Prophet):
 - ☑ Jeremiah’s family turned against him and even plotted to kill him ([Jeremiah 1:8](#), 11:21-23, 12:6). Over the years, he was whipped and put in the stocks ([Jeremiah 20:1-3](#)), attacked by a mob ([Jeremiah 26:1-9](#)), threatened by the king ([Jeremiah 36:26](#)), and ridiculed ([Jeremiah 28](#)). Some of Zedekiah’s princes had Jeremiah arrested,

beaten, accused of treason, and thrown in jail ([Jeremiah 37:1-15](#)), from whence he was then thrown in a deep empty well ([Jeremiah 38:1-6](#)). He lived through the siege of Jerusalem along with the rest and was there as the people were taken away as captives.

☑ **Kill the prophets...**

- ☑ ““Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you **build the tombs of the prophets** and adorn the monuments of the righteous, and say, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.’ **“Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves** that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.” Matthew 23:29-31 NKJV

☑ **Prophet: Job description and responsibilities!**

- ☑ “...Others were **tortured**, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of **mockings** and **scourgings**, yes, and of **chains** and **imprisonment**. They were stoned, they were **sawn in two** [*Isaiah*], were **tempted**, were **slain with the sword**. They **wandered about** in sheepskins and goatskins, being **destitute, afflicted, tormented**— of whom the world was

not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.” Hebrews 11:35-38 NKJV

☑ **Prophet: the payoff**

☑ “And all these, having obtained a good **testimony** through faith, did not receive the promise, God **having provided something better for us**, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.” Hebrews 11:39-40 NKJV

☑ *“Indeed **we count them blessed who endure**. You have heard of **the perseverance of Job** and seen **the end intended by the Lord**—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.”*

James 5:11 NKJV

☑ **We count them blessed who endure...**

☑ Those who endure to the end...

☑ ““Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. **But he who endures to the end shall be saved**. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all

the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come." Matthew 24:9-14 NKJV

The perseverance of Job

If anyone ever did NOT deserve this suffering...

"There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was **blameless** and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil." Job 1:1 NKJV

His animals are stolen and servants killed

"Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house; and a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, when the Sabeans **raided them and took them away**—indeed they have **killed the servants** with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!" Job 1:13-15 NKJV

Fire kills his sheep and more servants!

"While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "**The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants**, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!" Job 1:16 NKJV

His camels are stolen and more servants die!

- ☑ “While he was still speaking, another also came and said, “The Chaldeans formed three bands, **raided the camels and took them away, yes, and killed the servants** with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!”” Job 1:17 NKJV
- ☑ All his children die in a structure collapse!
- ☑ “While he was still speaking, another also came and said, “**Your sons and daughters** were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house, and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, **and it fell on the young people, and they are dead;** and I alone have escaped to tell you!”” Job 1:18-19 NKJV
- ☑ The Perseverance of Job...
- ☑ “Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. And he said: “**Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord.**” In all this Job **did not sin nor charge God with wrong.**” Job 1:20-22 NKJV
- ☑ **The end intended by the Lord...the end is better than the beginning!**

- ☑ “Now **the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning;** for he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and one thousand female donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters. And he called the name of the first Jemimah, the name of the second Keziah, and the name of the third Keren-Happuch. In all the land were found no women so beautiful as the daughters of Job; and their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers. **After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children and grandchildren for four generations.**” Job 42:12-16 NKJV

NEXT TEACHING

Above All! (James 5:12)