

“By Your Patience Possess Your Souls”

Luke 21:12-19; James 1:2-4

Luke 21:12-19

- “But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name's sake. 13 But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. 14 Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; 15 for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist. 16 You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. 17 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. 18 But not a hair of your head shall be lost. 19 By your patience possess your souls.”

James 1:2-4

- “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”

Patience:

- Keeps us faithful to the Lord
- Keeps us waiting for the Lord
- Keeps us working in the Lord
- Brings us home to be with the Lord
- Patience, like the wind, is not seen, but is known by what it moves.

“By Your Patience Possess Your Souls”

- “No pain that we suffer, no trial that we experience is wasted. It ministers to our education, to the development of such qualities as patience, faith, fortitude and humility. All that we suffer and all that we endure, especially when we endure it patiently, builds up our characters, purifies our hearts, expands our souls, and makes us more tender and charitable, more worthy to be called the children of God; and, it is through sorrow and suffering, toil and tribulation, that we gain the education that we come here to acquire and which will make us more like our Father in heaven.” (Orson F. Whitney)

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- “I will not deny but that the best apology against false accusers is patient silence and sufferance, and honest deeds set against dishonest words.” (John Milton)
- “I realized that the deepest spiritual lessons are not learned by His letting us have our way in the end, but by His making us wait, bearing with us in love and patience until we are able to honestly to pray what He taught His disciples to pray: ‘Thy will be done.’” (Elisabeth Elliot)

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- “Patience is not passive resignation, nor is it failing to act because of our fears. Patience means active waiting and enduring. It means staying with something and doing all that we can -- working, hoping, and exercising faith; bearing hardship with fortitude, even when the desires of our hearts are delayed. patience is not simply enduring; it is enduring well! Impatience, on the other hand, is a symptom of selfishness. It is a trait of the self-absorbed. It arises from the all too prevalent condition called ‘center of the universe’ syndrome, which leads people to believe that the world revolves around them and that all others are just supporting cast in the grand theater of mortality in which only they have the starring role.” (Dieter F. Uchtdorf)

“By Your Patience Possess Your Souls”

- Patience in the 21st century
 - We don't want it done now; we want it done yesterday.
- How is patience defined in scripture?
 - Patience is hupomone - “From the root ‘to bear or abide under’; cheerful or hopeful endurance, constancy, enduring, patience, patient continuance, waiting” (Strong's)

Patience Keeps Us Faithful To The Lord

- It is keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus
 - Rev. 14:12 - “Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.”

Patience Keeps Us Faithful To The Lord

- To be faithful to Jesus, we must patiently abide in His word
 - John 8:32 - “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”
 - John 15:4 - “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.”

Patience Keeps Us Faithful To The Lord

- To be faithful, we must abide under hardship
 - Rev. 2:10 - “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”
 - James 5:10-11 - “My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience. 11 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.”

Patience Keeps Us Faithful To The Lord

- To be faithful, we must abide without giving up
 - Heb. 10:38-39 - “Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him. 39 But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.”

Patience Keeps Us Waiting For The Lord

- Patience keeps us watching
 - Mark 13:32-37 - “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. 34 It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. 35 Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming--in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning-- 36 lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. 37 And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!”

Patience Keeps Us Waiting For The Lord

- Patience keeps us waiting
 - 2Thes. 3:5 - “Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.”
 - James 5:7 - “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.”

Patience Keeps Us Working In The Lord

- The work of the Lord requires strength, and patience brings more strength
 - Isa. 40:31 - “But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.”
 - Col. 1:11 - “strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy”

Patience Keeps Us Working In The Lord

- The work of the Lord requires good influence, and patience extends our influence
 - Luke 8:15 - “But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.”
 - Psalm 40:1-3 - “I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me, And heard my cry. 2 He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock, And established my steps. 3 He has put a new song in my mouth-Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, And will trust in the LORD.”

Patience Keeps Us Working In The Lord

- The work of the Lord requires us to teach others, and patience facilitates our teaching them in the right spirit
 - 2Tim. 2:24-25 - “And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, 25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth”
 - 1Thes. 5:14 - “Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.”

Patience Brings Us Home With The Lord

- If we remain patient in this life, we will inherit the promises
 - Heb. 6:12 - “Do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”
 - Heb. 10:36 - “For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise”

Patience Brings Us Home With The Lord

- If we are patient in well doing, God will give us eternal life
 - Rom. 2:7 - “Eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality”

Patience Brings Us Home With The Lord

- If we are patient, we will see the coming of the Lord and our salvation.
 - 1John 2:28 - “And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.”
 - James 5:8 - “You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.”

Patience Brings Us Home With The Lord

- Patience means staying to the end.
- Patience has a work to do in our life. Let patience have its perfect work!
 - James 1:4 - “But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”
 - Heb. 12:1 - “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.”