

Biblical Answers to Patience and Perseverance Week 18

Heb 6:12 In order that you may not grow disinterested and become [spiritual] sluggards, but imitators, behaving as do those who through faith (by their leaning of the entire personality on God in Christ in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness) and by practice of patient endurance and waiting are [now] inheriting the promises. AMP

James 1:2 Dear brothers, is your life full of difficulties and temptations? Then be happy, 3 for when the way is rough, your patience has a chance to grow. 4 So let it grow, and don't try to squirm out of your problems. For when your patience is finally in full bloom, then you will be ready for anything, strong in character, full and complete. TLB

- Many people have great _____ in their faith until it is severely tested by hardships and disappointments.
- How a person handles trouble will _____ whether his faith is living or dead, genuine or imitation, saving faith or man-made religion.
- You cannot _____ a true believer until you become one.
- There has to be a _____ from ungodly things.

Jim Cymbala in his book Fresh Faith said this:

“This separation from ungodly things was for the purpose of the Hebrews maintaining their _____ for battle. Alliances with sinful things or even questionable practices sap our strength and leave us _____ before the enemy.”

“If there are some wrong conversations going on or inappropriate relationships or some fascination with questionable things we slowly but surely _____ our spiritual vitality.”

- The enemy, in time, will try to steal our _____.
- The true test of patience comes when our _____ are violated and our patience is tested. We call that impatience _____.
- Patience reveals what we really, by faith, believe concerning God's _____ and love and His all-knowing nature.

So what is Patience?

- Most folks consider patience to be a _____ waiting or gentle tolerance.
- The word patience in Hebrews is translated “_____”.
- Patience is the Greek from which we get the word _____.

- Endurance is a steady _____ to keep going.

Patience is not developed overnight. Where does it come from and what does it look like?

1. Trusting God's _____ and goodness is what develops patience.
2. Practice is waiting for God without _____.
The refusal to complain also involves building _____ in one's life.
The refusal to complain shows one's _____.
3. Patience develops _____ that reflects Christ.

The competition of the Christian life is different from that of an athletic race in two important ways.

1. We are not to compete against other _____ or other ministries trying to outdo each other in righteousness, recognition, or accomplishments.
2. Our ability to run and _____ is not in our own strength but in the Holy Spirit.

Steps to help us to develop patience:

1. Have a _____ heart towards God.
2. _____ God's _____ in all of life.
3. Recognize that God uses _____ to strengthen our patience.
4. Understand that God develops patience in us, to bring an end to our _____.

Rom 8:13 For if you live according to [the dictates of] the flesh, you will surely die. But if through the power of the [Holy] Spirit you are [habitually] putting to death (making extinct, deadening) the [evil] deeds prompted by the body, you shall [really and genuinely] live forever.

- The flesh is the ugly complex of human sinful desires that includes the ungodly _____, affections, principles, purposes, words, and actions that sin generates through our bodies.
- To live according to the flesh is to be ruled and _____ by that evil complex.