

A Call to PATIENT Perseverance ~ James 5:10-12

→ Scripture Reading - James 5:7-8, 10-12

INTRODUCTION

→ Far Side Cartoon

What comes into our minds when we **THINK about God** is the most important thing about us. AW Tozer

When we are tempted to believe that patience is impossible, God REMINDS us of those who did ENDURE with PATIENCE the trials HE allowed into their lives. LAB

Examples of PERSEVERANCE ~ James 5:10-11

¹⁰ Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 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.

Perseverance is patience STRETCHED out - Patience that is TESTED is **perseverance**. LAB

Matthew 5:10 (NIV) Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

IMPLICATION

→ **Job's Perseverance was NOT based on his UNDERSTANDING of what God was doing** LAB

God's purpose is not that we develop a mind full of EXPLANATIONS and answers; His PURPOSE is to bring us to a place where we TRUST Him. LAB

He gives us more grace as our burdens grow greater, He sends us more strength as our labors increase; To added afflictions He adds all His mercy, To multiplied trials His multiplied peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance, When our strength has failed and the day is half done, When we reach the end of our hoarded resources, Our Father's full giving is only begun.

→ **God's PLANS and TIMING are what Matters**

Job 5:17-18 (NIV) Blessed is the man whom God corrects; so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty. ¹⁸ For HE wounds, but HE also binds up; HE injures, but HIS hands also heal.

Job 13:15 (NIV) Though HE slay me, yet will I hope in HIM; I will surely defend my ways to HIS face.

Job 19:25 (NLT) But as for me, I KNOW that my Redeemer lives, and He will stand upon the earth at last.

God does demand that we recognize we are FINITE and acknowledge that His PLANS are beyond our comprehension. God demands that, like Job, we hold on to our FAITH and HOPE in Him. PTW

→ **God finds NO PLEASURE in our Suffering**

Romans 8:32 (NIV) He who did NOT SPARE his own Son, but gave Him up for us all - how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?

Lamentations 3:22-23 (NLT) The FAITHFUL love of the LORD never ends. His MERCIES never cease. ²³ Great is His faithfulness; His mercies begin AFRESH each morning.

→Suffering, Persecution, Hardship, and Stress should NOT SURPRISE us

John 15:20 (NIV) Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also.

Matthew 5:11-12 (NIV) Blessed are you WHEN people INSULT you, PERSECUTE you and falsely SAY all kinds of EVIL against you because of ME. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Stop SWEARING ~ James 5:12

¹² Above all, my brothers, do not swear - not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your "Yes" be yes, and your "No," no, or you will be condemned.

→Say what you mean and mean what you say

IMPLICATION

→What we SAY matters - WORDS mean Things

Colossians 3:9-10 (NIV) Do not LIE to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Colossians 3:15-17 (NIV) Let the PEACE of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

¹⁶ Let the WORD of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in WORD or DEED, do it all in the NAME of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

TAKE AWAY ??

→Job's Patient ENDURANCE was not PASSIVE

Job 12:2-3 (NLT) You people really know everything, don't you? And when you die, wisdom will die with you! ³ Well, I know a few things myself - and you're no better than I am. Who doesn't know these things you've been saying?

Job 13:3-4 (NLT) As for me, I would speak directly to the Almighty. I want to argue my case with God himself. ⁴ As for you, you smear me with lies. As physicians, you are worthless quacks.

Job 16:2-3 (NLT) I have heard all this before. What miserable comforters you are! ³ Won't you ever stop blowing hot air? What makes you keep on talking?

Job 42:1-6 (NLT) ¹ Then Job replied to the LORD: ² "I know that YOU can do anything, and no one can stop you. ³ You asked, 'Who is this that questions MY wisdom with such ignorance?' It is I - and I was talking about things I knew nothing about, things far too wonderful for me. ⁴ You said, 'Listen and I will speak! I have some questions for you, and you must answer them.' ⁵ I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes. ⁶ I take back everything I said, and I sit in dust and ashes to show my repentance."