

Patience

The word “patience” means to be cheerful or hopeful, having endurance, constancy. In our daily lives we need to have patience in all that we do in order to not blow up when trials come, that we endeavor to trust in the Lord that he will guide us through trying challenges.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.
{affections: or, passions} If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.
(Galatians 22-25)

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, {patient: or, forbearing} (2 Timothy 2:24)

Being part of His Holy Spirit is a special privilege, for once being with Him we will claim that we are His. Those around us will see our way of living striving to duplicate the works of his Spirit. God relates that you can tell what kind of individual a person is by the works or actions they do. With this being said, Galatians shows us that temperance and longsuffering are a major part of life's trials that we all must bear within the process of God's refinement to make us morally improved, obedient to His laws. A key ingredient in achieving this often difficult moral process is having patience. Patience and faith in Him are what will get us all through any of the trials which He puts in front of us.

"You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore, by their fruits you will know them. (Matthew 7:16-20)

A good person will produce good fruits in the doing of morally upstanding actions while a bad person will do morally repugnant actions. You will never find an inherently bad person doing good things or an inherently good person doing bad things because such behaviors are in direct opposition, impossible to concurrently cohabit within a person. Some of the attributes or fruits of the Spirit that a good or virtuous person would have are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. Longsuffering or patience is one of the true virtues that all should have to be that good person living in accordance with the Spirit of God. Having these gifts of the Spirit, we will be seen by others exuding special qualities recognized as being set apart, positively unique in comparison to the ways of the world. As a direct result of our faithfulness throughout our trials, He has and will bless us for our moral tenacity of obedience to His laws.

Romans 12:6-18 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on

teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness. {giveth: or, imparteth} {with simplicity: or, liberally} Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; {with...: or, in the love of the brethren} Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits. {condescend...: or, be contented with mean things} Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

Thus God tells us that we all have been given different spiritual gifts to actively use according to His grace. Later in this writing, God continues to show us that all who are committed to living His Way must show love irrespective to every person regardless of circumstances however challenging they may become. Such unconditional love only comes to those believers who patiently wait for His rewards, actively cultivating their faithfulness to Him by applying themselves through all tribulations and trials encountered throughout life.

Romans 5:1-5 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: 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.

He shows His love to us by the hope of eternal life being granted to those who apply both faith and patience in his ways while awaiting His great gift that He will bring to us at the end time. Thus when trials come, we receive patience shown in our persistence in not falling away from God during these times. Enduring patience yields experiences to look back on, to review failures, our demonstrated weaknesses in faith while entrapped within the throes of hard times. These experiences allow us to see that God is always there for us; we can hope for the blessings that He will one day grant us.

Romans 2:1-10 Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. And thinkest thou

this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; {Gentile: Gr. Greek} But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: {Gentile: Gr. Greek}

The reward of having the gifts of the Spirit and the patience in God is the glory and honor and immortality, eternal life. For them that are not following His ways and His truth, God will grant tribulation and anguish on them forever and ever!

James 1:2-4 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; {temptation: or, trials} Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

And my final words: we are to count us blessed when we are given temptations and trials and succeed in not falling away from His ways. From this successful effort in faith, we will receive the hope of eternal life in God, the ultimate reward. Have patience, persistence, achieve future perfected existence!

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