

Endure With Patience

June 23, 2024

Title this week = “Endure With Patience.” In working this week’s material for this teaching, I started off with “patience” as the main focus, but I was pleasantly surprised that the word “patience” is many times associated with the word “endurance.” Here’s a little Greek lesson to give some fuller insight into “patience.”

One of the words for “patience” is translated from the Greek word **makrothumia** (Strong's #3115) which is related to another compound word made up of **makros** ('long' or 'far') and **thumos** ('wrath' or 'fierceness'). Although **thumos** can mean wrath or fierceness, its usage in this compound form carries the idea of “temper”, or “temperance.” Thus, **makrothumia** denotes remaining in a state of emotional quietness with temperance in the face of unfavorable circumstances.

Next, “patience,” is also the Greek word **hypomone** (Strong's #5278) which is also a compound word made up of two other words: **hypo** (a preposition meaning 'under') and **moneo** (a verb meaning to 'remain' or 'abide'). Thus, the idea is to 'remain under' or 'abide under' difficult circumstances - as when it is not possible to escape or avoid them. It is with steadfastness, constancy and endurance.

James 5:7 Be patient [*makrothumeō* v. remain in quietness with temperance] therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman [*farmer*] waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience [*makrothumeō* quietness with temperance] for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. **8** Be ye also patient [*makrothumeō*]; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

In these two verses, the exhortation is to remain in a state of quietness with temperance against unfavorable circumstances. Remain, remain, remain! Which also means, “Wait!” or “Just wait, remain seated, and watch for the return of Christ,” which is just around the corner.” Do you see how there is endurance associated with patience? The farmer plants the seeds, waters them and just waits until the fruit of the harvest comes. If you have ever planted a garden, you can understand this. The farmer plants, waters, and waits. then he can enjoy the harvest along with everybody else.

The analogy of an “Endurance Race” has been used to describe how we are to look at our renewed mind walk with Jesus Christ, until he returns. I used to go to what is called, an “Enduro Race,” which is a timed race on a closed circuit. Everyone has the same size bike. The course is the same for everyone. *Stay on the course. Finish each “heat” of the race. When you fall down, get back up and keep going!* We are going to come back to James 5 in a moment, but let’s take a quick look at Hebrews 12.

Hebrews 12:1: Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses [people who have done this before!], let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience [*hypomonē: with steadfastness, constancy and endurance*] the race that is set before us, **2** Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith [*pistis=believing*]; who for the joy that was set before him endured [*hypomenō*] the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

The word “endure” in this case is **hypomeno** and is a verb form of **hypomone**. *It means “to endure, bear bravely and calmly in spite of misfortunes.”* I would say that being crucified is a big misfortune! Yet, Jesus endured it bravely and calmly. He is our greatest example of endurance and patience. Look at what he did and all he went through. But you say, “Yeah, but I’m not Jesus Christ!” That’s a cop out.

This is God's instruction as to what to do in the face of misfortune or adversity. If Jesus can you can! God promised Jesus Christ that He would raise him from the dead after 3 days and 3 days in the heart of the earth. Got the promise, waited patiently and endured, then it came to pass. Jesus Laid the out the course. Back to James 5 where it talks about others in the Old Testament who also set the example.

James 5:10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience [*makrothumia*]. **11** Behold, we count them happy which endure [*hupomenō*]. Ye have heard of the patience [*hupomonē*] of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful [*compassionate*], and of tender mercy.

Job 1:1: There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil. **2** And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters. **3** His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

Job was inoffensive and blameless. And then Job and his family get wiped out. Then Job gets sore boils all over his body. Nasty. Job stays put. He patiently and steadfastly waits for the deliverance.

Verse 13 And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: **14** And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them: **15** And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. **16** While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. **17** While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. **18** While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: **19** And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. **20** Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, **21** And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. **22** In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

Job was inoffensive and blameless. And then Job and his family get wiped out. Then Job gets sore boils all over his body. Nasty. Job stays put. He was steadfast and endured through it all. He remained calm, quiet. He did not curse God or blame God for all of this adversity. Although there was adversity and trouble, he waited, he endured with great patience. He didn't whine about it. He didn't throw in the towel. He didn't commit himself to an asylum. He remained steadfast in waiting for the deliverance of God. Then in chapter 42, it talks about his deliverance. We'll skip the miserable comforters for now.

Job 42:12-17 So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses. **13** He had also seven sons and three daughters. **14** And he called the name of the first, Jemima; and the name of the second, Kezia; and the name of the third, Kerenhappuch. **15** And in all the land were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job: and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren.

16 After this lived Job an hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, even four generations. 17 So Job died, *being* old and full of days.

The outcome was much better than the original success and abundance that he had before the trouble started. Job was a man who lived a long time before the first coming of Jesus Christ. He lived before Moses delivered the 10 commandments. He lived when the adversary had the dominion over the earth that had been transferred to him when Adam sinned.

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: 2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations [*thlipsis* = mental pressure] also: knowing that tribulation [mental pressure] worketh [or, brings about] patience; 4 And patience, experience [proven integrity]; and experience [proven integrity], hope: 5 And hope maketh not ashamed [or, does not disgrace by disappointed expectations]; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. 6 For when we were yet without strength [weak], in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

These are great words of wisdom. It brings us up to speed on how different life is after accepting Jesus Christ as your lord and savior. The times in which we live are so much different than Job's time. Because of what Christ accomplished for us, we have been given back what Adam lost, with interest!! Satan no longer has dominion over the believer. So don't let him think he does. He's a jerk.

The life that Jesus Christ came to make available through his acts of justice resulted in "eternal life," for us. It is a life of greater significance than the mortal life of those who were condemned after the fall of Adam. (By the way, that included us before accepting Christ). Our life is now secure, is our future. Jesus Christ set an example for us to follow; seeing his patience and endurance.

Life throws us into turbulent times. Whether it's losing a job, having our car wrecked, or grieving the loss of a loved one, we sometimes find ourselves confounded by the chaos and uncertainty of the world. It's during these moments that we turn to God's Word to seek guidance and direction.

Romans 15:1 We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities [weaknesses] of the weak [those who are unable], and not to please ourselves. 2 Let every one of us please *his* neighbour for *his* good to edification. 3 For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches [*insults*] of them that reproached [*insulted*] thee fell on me. (Psalm 69:9)

Jesus Christ was proactive in his life. He didn't bemoan the unfortunate circumstance that came along. He simply bore the infirmities of the weak to the end that their lives would be better. Regardless of the insults and mental pressure that came along, he withstood and stayed quiet and steadfast. The same accusations, insults, defamation that the enemy had accused God of, were the same ones that David was accused of. They did this to all of the prophets, and to Jesus Christ... and Christ stood up to it. He backed down those who insulted him, and he did it with patient endurance, meaning that he didn't insult the accuser back, rather he spoke the truth of God's Word to them.

I Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: 22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: 23 Who, when he was reviled [*insulted*], reviled not again [*he did not retaliate with insults*]; when he suffered [*hatred by others*], he threatened not [*did not retaliate with hate*]; but committed *himself* to him that judgeth righteously:

This is very self-explanatory. Jesus Christ endured hatred by others. He was slandered. He was insulted. He was not given the respect he deserved as God's Only-Begotten Son! Yet, he let the insults go, and instead of retaliating, he simply spoke God's Word, he patiently endured. This is a great example for us to follow.

2 Peter 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience [*hupomonē steadfastness, endurance*]; and to patience [*hupomonē*]; godliness; **7** And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make *you that ye shall* neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We read earlier that the farmer waits patiently for the fruit of his labor. Here it talks about being fruitful in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. That is the product produced!

We talked about the "Enduro Race." It's a timed course. Jesus Christ set course to follow. There are things you have to do to cross the finish line. When you fall down from pressures of life, you get back up again. This is patience endurance.

God bless you!

Jack