

## **How to Be Patient - James 5:7-13**

### **First Southern Baptist Church - 8-18-21**

#### **Introduction**

1. A lesson we all need to learn
  - computers
  - fast-food
  - cell phones, don't have to wait til we get home to call
  - microwaves
2. We are impatient
  - with people, children, husbands, wives
  - with circumstances (when will I ever get that job?)
  - with our own bodies (when will I ever lose weight? When will I ever get well?)
  - with God (prayers answered, harvest come in, his return, when will the unrighteous "get theirs?")
  - with our dentist/ doctor
  - with the restaurant
  - with the stop light/ traffic jams
2. A right now generation: instant gratification
  - programed to be impatient?

#### **I. Exhortation to Patience**

1. Impatience Causes Sin
  - A. 5:9 - grudges
  - B. 5:12 - swear
  - C. 5:8 - instability
  - D. When the people saw that Moses "delayed" - Ex. 32:1
  - E. Abraham, set aside God's means - took Hagar
  - F. We are short-sighted
  - G. Impatience is insubordination - form of self-will
2. Patience brings God's blessing:
  - A. Ps. 40:1
  - B. Is. 25:9
  - C. Is. 26:8
  - D. Is. 33:2
  - E. Acts 1:4
  - F. \*Luke 8:15 - good-ground hearers bring forth fruit with patience
3. Patience is Practical
  - A. Ushers in good manners
  - B. Not "touchy" irritable - not easily provoked.
  - C. Seeks for best in others.

#### **II. Example of Patience**

1. Example of the **Farmer** (7-8)
  - A. Points to God's time-table
  - B. Baby cannot talk at 3 days

- C. Nothing to do with bad or good child
- 2. Example of the **Prophets** (10)
  - A. Points to our heritage
  - B. Points to our calling
  - C. Prophecy - yet nothing happened
  - D. Persecuted
- 3. Example of **Job** (11)
  - A. Points to the result - God gets glory
  - B. Shall I receive good at the Lord's hand and not evil?
- 4. Example of **Christ**
  - A. Wearied - spoke with Samaritan - Jn. 4
  - B. With disciples - "carest not"
  - C. My time is not come - Jn. 7
  - D. Reviled not again

### **III. Expectation of Patience**

- 1. Necessary to receive the promises - Heb. 11
- 2. **Internally** receive - James 1:4
  - A. You're being perfected, completed - matured
  - B. Puts us in possession of our souls - Luke 21:9
- 3. **Externally** receive - Heb. 10:36
  - A. Farmer receives rain
  - B. Verse 11 - end of the Lord
- 4. **Eternally** receive - James 5:7
  - A. Verse 7 - unto the coming of the Lord
  - B. Verse 8 - coming of the Lord draws nigh
- 5. How long must I be patient? - "until the coming of the Lord"

### **IV. Explanation of Patience**

- 1. Patience is a fruit/ not a gift
  - A. Subtle distinction
  - B. Splitting hairs
- 2. Patience is grown - not given
  - \*We want what God gives - not who He is
- 3. As our relationship with Him is right it is a by-product

**Conclusion:** Chinese Bamboo - planted, watered, cultivated for five years, then grows 90 feet in six weeks. Did it grow 90 feet in six weeks or in five years?