

Patience

Romans 5:3 “*And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;*”

A. Let’s define the word “patience”.

1. Strongs defines it as - cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy.
2. Vines defines it - "an abiding under, endurance”
3. The Cambridge Dictionary defines it this way – “the ability to wait, or to continue doing something despite difficulties, or to suffer without complaining or becoming annoyed:”
4. God told us “Knowing that tribulation worketh patience”. This goes against human nature, because with the flesh it works impatience. And “impatience” works helplessness and hopelessness. Lost people and even some weak Christians will commit suicide over Tribulations because they have no understanding of God’s workings.

B. God said, “knowing that tribulation worketh patience;”

1. When God said “knowing” this is important because it means - "to have seen or perceived" hence, "to know, to have knowledge of," whether absolutely, as in divine knowledge, or in the case of human "knowledge," to know from observation. – Vines
 - a. Divine knowledge is found in **Matthew 6:8** “*Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.*” This divine knowledge of God is without question; therefore, we trust God to answer our prayers.
 - b. As for our “knowing” it is tied to God’s knowing, because it is tied to our faith in God. Therefore, we “Know”, without question and with strong faith that our tribulations in our life is given from God to build our patience.
2. Let’s look at what God said in James, **James 1:2 - 4** "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; (3) Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. (4) But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

- a. James said when temptations come that it is “the trying of your faith” to build patience “worketh patience” then he says, to let is all work out. This is only possible in our faith in God.
 - b. When James wrote “count it all joy” he means that joyfulness is an attitude and should be the joyfulness of the believer.
3. True patience, godly patience, God given patience is trusting God in faith and the stronger our faith the stronger our patience.
- a. Jesus said, **John 16:33** “*These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*” Jesus just promised that we will have tribulations in our life, and to be of good cheer! This is only possible in faith!
 - b. We must understand God and His workings in our life, that these trials and tribulations builds our faith, hope, and patience. All because we know and understand we are at peace with God.
 - c. James wrote to “count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations” and Jesus said “be of good cheer;” So we ask how is this possible, and Jesus said “*I have overcome the world.*”
 - d. Because of the victory of Jesus Christ, we are victorious in Christ because Satan is defeated. One writer said, “*Satan is a humbled foe; and all that believers have to do is to put their trust in the Captain of their salvation, putting on the whole armor of God, assured that the victory is theirs*”
 - e. This is called Patience and it is only possible in Jesus Christ being victorious and God’s promise that we to will be victorious.
- C. Our strongest faith is our strongest patience.
1. Our Strength is in our faith in Christ which builds our strength in God. Which is our knowledge, understanding, and wisdom in God. Our strongest time of patience is when we are strongest in Jesus Christ, He is our standard of our spiritual life.
 2. Listen to John in **Revelation 1:9** “*I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.*” – We are all companions and brothers in tribulations, it is part of being a Christian. Only in our

- understanding of this can we have patience in them. **Colossians 1:10-11** “*That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;*” – Only in our “increasing in the knowledge of God;” can we as Christians be “Strengthened with all might” – and when it is done, we will have great patience in this life and live in satisfaction no matter what comes our way.
3. Let’s read **Ephesians 3:16-19** “*That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.*” Patience is a grace of God, it is built over time, and it starts with understanding the love of God toward us, the peace we have with God in Jesus, and the hope we have in Him, and our ability to access the Father thru Jesus Christ at any time, this equals strong patience.
 4. This is why Victory in Jesus and Blessed Assurance is two of my favorite songs.
 - a. “*How a Savior came from glory, How He gave His life on Calvary To save a wretch like me...About the angels singing, And the old redemption story, And some sweet day I'll sing up there The song of victory.*” This is my victory, and in it I can have patience.
 - b. “*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine, O what a foretaste of glory divine...Heir of salvation, purchase of God Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood...all is at rest I in my Savior am happy and blessed Watching and waiting, looking above Filled with His goodness, lost in His love*” – I am blessed to have all assurance in Jesus Christ, knowing that the life I walk is the life He walked, in trials, tribulations, and persecutions, **if only I can have as strong of patience as He did.**
 5. Paul wrote in his second letter to the church of the Thessalonians as he was closing his letter, **2 Thessalonians 3:3 - 5** “*But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil. And we have confidence in the Lord touching you, that ye*

both do and will do the things which we command you. And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ."

D. Our Conclusion

1. **James 5:10 - 11** *"Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. (11) Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy."*
2. **In the words of Adam Clarke**, Job was "Stripped of all his worldly possessions, deprived at a stroke of all his children, tortured in body with sore disease, tempted by the devil, harassed by his wife, and belittled by his friends, he nevertheless held fast his integrity, resigned himself to the Divine dispensations, and charged not God foolishly." We never question or blame God, we pray and trust Him, and thank Him for building our faith and patience!