

Let Us Study Passages that Teach About Patience
(Hebrews 12:1-3)

Introduction:

1. This morning we pointed out from these verses that "the Christian race must be run with patience."
2. 3 guidelines are also revealed that will help us accomplish this goal.
3. From these verses we conclude that "patience" is an important virtue that deserves our careful attention.
4. In our lesson, "let us study passages that teach about patience."

Discussion:

- I. IN OUR STUDY OF "PATIENCE" WE MUST UNDERSTAND WHAT IT IS
 - A. There are several words in the Bible translated "patience."
 - B. One word can also be translated "longsuffering."
 1. This is the spirit we are to have while we go through periods of waiting.
 2. This kind of "patience" is illustrated by the farmer (James 5:7).
 - C. Another word can also be translated "endurance," "steadfastness," or "perseverance."
 1. We develop this type of "patience" as a result of going through difficulties.
 2. This is the type of "patience" mentioned in James 1:3.
 - D. Christians are to develop and exercise both types of "patience."
 - E. Now that we understand what "patience" is, . . .
- II. LET US CONSIDER 2 REASONS WHY WE MUST EXERCISE "PATIENCE"
 - A. First, the Bible repeatedly teaches us to be patient.
 1. (Luke 21:19) Jesus said, *"In your patience possess ye your souls."*
 2. (Romans 12:12) Christians are to be *"patient in tribulation."*
 3. (Galatians 5:22-23) *"Longsuffering"* is a part of the fruit of the Spirit.
 4. (1 Thessalonians 5:14) *"Be patient toward all men."*
 5. (2 Peter 1:5-7) *"Patience"* is one of the Christian graces.
 - B. Second, the Bible shows how "patience" will help us.
 1. "Patience" will help us in bearing fruit (Luke 8:15; John 15:8).
 2. "Patience" will help us while we wait to receive God's promise.
 - a. This point is made in Hebrews 10:36.
 - b. This point is illustrated by Abraham (Hebrews 6:15).
 3. "Patience" will help us to avoid falling away (2 Peter 1:6, 8-10).
 4. "Patience" will help us when we pray (Psalm 40:1).
 - C. Now that we understand why we must exercise patience, . . .
- III. LET US EXAMINE HOW "PATIENCE" IS DEVELOPED
 - A. When we face trials, we must ask for wisdom (James 1:5-6; 3:17).
 - B. We learn from 1 Corinthians 13:4 that we must develop the right kind of love because *"charity suffereth long."*
 - C. We must look to positive role models such as:
 1. Christ (Hebrews 12:2-3)
 2. the prophets (James 5:10)
 3. Job (James 5:11).
 - D. We must learn to *"wait upon the Lord"* (Isaiah 40:28-31).

Conclusion:

1. In James 5:7-8 we are instructed twice to "be patient."
2. These verses also mention *"the coming of the Lord"* twice.
3. This lets us know:
 - a. how long we must exercise patience -- until the Lord returns
 - b. another reason why we must exercise patience -- the Lord will return and give a reward to those who have served Him faithfully.