



Christian Virtues
James 5:7-12

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"I still love my enemy, but he's pushing his luck."

Be Patient

◆ **James 5:7-8** - 7 Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. 8 You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

God's Timing is Always Perfect

- ◆ **Deuteronomy 11:13-14** - 13 “And if you will indeed obey my commandments that I command you today, to love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, 14 he will give the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the later rain, that you may gather in your grain and your wine and your oil.”
- ◆ **Micah 7:7** - 7 But as for me, I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.

Be Positive

◆ **James 5:9** - 9 Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

Barnabas – Son of Encouragement

◆ **Acts 11:22-24** - 22 News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. 23 When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. 24 He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. (NIV)

God Calls Us to be Encouragers

- ◆ **Hebrews 3:13** - 13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness. (NIV)
- ◆ **Hebrews 10:24-25** - 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.
- ◆ **1 Thessalonians 5:14** - 14 And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.

Be Persistent

◆ **James 5:10-11** -10 As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 11 Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Need For Perseverance

◆ **Hebrews 10:36** - 36 You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

Be Prudent

◆ **James 5:12** - 12 But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

Jesus Warned About Taking Oaths.

◆ **Matthew 5:33-37** -33 “Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ 34 But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, 35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. 36 And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. 37 Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.