

Patience in Difficult Times

James 5:7-11



4 Keys to Patience in Difficult Times

1. Anticipate and Expect the Lord's Coming and Deliverance
2. Stand Firm – Establish Your Heart
3. Don't Grumble – Be the Example
4. Perseverance – Lord is Full of Compassion and Mercy

Anticipate and Expect the Lord's Coming and Deliverance

- **James 5:7** - 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.

All Things Work Together For Good For God's People

- **Romans 8:28** - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Focus on Jesus

- **Hebrews 12:2** - ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.
- **Revelation 1:8** - ⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”
- **Philippians 3:13(b)-14** - But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Stand Firm – Establish Your Heart

- **James 5:8** - ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

**These are the times
that try men's souls.**

**The summer soldier and
the sunshine patriot will, in
this crisis, shrink from the
service of their country;
but he that stands by it
now, deserves the love and
thanks of man and woman.
Tyranny, like hell, is not
easily conquered.**

Thomas Paine

Testing Your Faith – Building Your Character

- **James 1:2-4** - ² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

A Firm Foundation

- **Matthew 7:24-27** - ²⁴ “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

Stand Firm – Establish Your Heart

- **1 John 2:28** - ²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.
- **Revelation 3:10-11** - ¹⁰ Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth. ¹¹ I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown.

Don't Grumble – Be the Example

- **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.

Patient with Hope

- **Romans 8:24-25** - ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Warning Against Idleness

- **2 Thessalonians 3:6** – ⁶ Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us.
- **2 Thessalonians 3:11** - ¹¹ For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies.

Transform Your Mind

- **Romans 12:2** - ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
- **1 John 5:2-4** - ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

Perseverance – Lord is Full of Compassion and Mercy

- **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.

The Lord Hears Your Cries – He Will Deliver You

- **Psalm 34:4** - I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

- **Psalm 34:17-19:**
 - ¹⁷ When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.
 - ¹⁸ The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.
 - ¹⁹ Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.