

Be Patient: The Lord is Coming!

July 31, 2022 | Deep End Faith | James 5:7-11 | Dr. Todd Beall

Introduction: the context of James' admonition

1. Be patient in light of _____ (vv. 7–8)
 - a. The command (v. 7a)
 - b. The example of _____ (v. 7b)
 - c. Restatement of the command (v. 8)

2. Be patient with one another, because _____!
(v. 9)

3. Consider the examples of patience in suffering (vv. 10–11)
 - a. Consider the example of _____ (v. 10)
 - b. Consider the example of _____ (v. 11)

Application: how can we develop more patience?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does James 1 say about the importance of patience? Though the word is not used in chapters 2, 3, or 4, do you see the importance of patience in these chapters as well? (see esp. 3:1–6; 4:1–12)
2. During times of stress, do you tend to lash out against others, including other believers? What does James say about that? (see v. 9) See also Paul's admonition in Romans 14.
3. If you knew that the Lord was going to return tomorrow, what difference would that make in your behavior today? Do you really live in light of the Lord's return? If not, what changes do you plan to make in your priorities?
4. What OT prophet first comes to mind when you think of a prophet who suffered greatly? What lessons can you learn from his example?
5. When looking at the man Job, what are the first words you would use to describe him? Would you have thought first of his steadfast endurance, or something else? What can we learn from his example (positive and negative)?
6. Do we need to know why we are going through particular trials in order to have a better response to them? Did Job know why he was going through his trials? What response did the Lord want from Job—and from us?
7. What trials have you gone through recently, and what have you learned from them? What have you learned from other believers you know who have gone through trials?

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

1. If you have not done so recently, read through the book of Job, especially in light of James' commendation in James 5:11.
2. How much familiarity do you have with the OT Prophets? Consider making a schedule to work systematically through each OT prophetic book, working chapter by chapter through them.
3. Read *Until Christ Returns: Living Faithfully Today While We Wait for our Glorious Tomorrow* by David Jeremiah. Also available as an audiobook.