



THE EVIDENCE OF A  
GENUINE FAITH

PURSUING WHAT  
MATTERS TO GOD

Patience in your Suffering  
James 5:7-12

Sunday, November 15 / 20

*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. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. – James 5:7 – 8*

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*What then are we to do about our problems? We must learn to live with them until God delivers us. We must pray for grace to endure them without murmuring. Problems patiently endured will work for our spiritual perfecting. They harm us only when we resist them or endure them unwillingly. – A. W. Tozer*

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### **Introduction: The Precious Fruit of Living Patiently (5:7)**

- The Coming of the Lord

### **1. The Persistent Work of Living Patiently (5:8 – 9)**

- Bending but not Breaking (vs. 8)
- Groaning but not Grumbling (vs. 9)

### **2. The Positive Inspiration for Living Patiently (5:10 – 11)**

- The Prophets who Spoke in the Name of the Lord (vs. 10)
- The Lord who is Compassionate and Merciful (vs. 11)

### **Conclusion: The Public Witness of Living Patiently (5:12)**

- Letting your Words be your Bond

*'Patience is the companion of wisdom.'*  
St. Augustine



## Study and Discussion Questions

*James 5:7-12*

### Open It

1. What kinds of experiences try your patience?
2. What good things in life are worth waiting for?

### Explore It

3. What do we need to do as we wait for the Lord's return to earth? (5:7)
4. Why should we be patient about Christ's return? (5:8)
5. Why should we avoid judging others or grumbling against them? (5:9)
6. What will happen to Christians who grumble against their fellow believers? (5:9)
7. What people serve as good examples to us? How? (5:10-11)
8. In what ways does God help us when we must endure suffering? (5:11)

### Get It

9. How does God use others to build patience in our lives?
10. What makes it hard to wait on God's timing?
11. What blessing or reward came to you for suffering as a Christian?
12. What does it mean to stand firm as a Christian?
13. For what kinds of reasons do Christians judge each other?
14. What does God think about Christians fighting among themselves?

### Apply It

15. With what situation or problem can you ask God for help and patience this week?
16. What steps will you take this week to avoid judging others in your home? workplace? church?