

The Fruit of the Spirit Is Longsuffering

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Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
Gal 5:23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

I. Longsuffering [patient and hopeful endurance of injuries or provocation for a long time]

—Even to a steadiness that affords a control over self in the worst of situations

Luk 21:19 In your patience possess ye your souls.

II. God is a longsuffering God of much patience

A. God is longsuffering—As it pertains to punishment

1Pe 3:20 ...the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah...

Ecc 8:11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

Rom 9:22 *What* if God, willing to shew *his* wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

B. God is longsuffering—As it pertains to salvation

Rom 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

1Ti 1:16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

2Pe 3:15 And account *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation...

III. Longsuffering and patience are marks of one who is following the Spirit

A. As God is longsuffering to us—We are to be toward others

Rom 15:5 Now the God of **patience** and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus:

B. Old men are not to be 'grumpy old men' (especially to their wives)

Tit 2:2 ...the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in **patience**.

C. We are to be longsuffering in *wrong suffering* (suffering wrongs toward ourselves)

1Pe 2:20 For what glory *is it*, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when **ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.**

D. Preachers are to be patient in preaching

2Ti 2:24 And the servant of the Lord must...be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, **patient**.

2Ti 2:25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

E. Hearers of the word are to be patient doers of what they hear

Luk 8:13 (*Some*) ...when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.

Luk 8:14 (*Some*) ...when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of *this* life, and bring no fruit to perfection.

Luk 8:15 (*Some*) ...having heard the word, keep *it*, and bring forth fruit with **patience**.

IV. Longsuffering is a 'double first cousin' to forgiveness

Mat 18:26 The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, **Lord, have patience with me**, and I will pay thee all.

Mat 18:27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and **forgave him** the debt.

Mat 18:28 But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took *him* by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

Mat 18:29 And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, **Have patience with me**, and I will pay thee all.

Mat 18:30 And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.

Col 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, **longsuffering**;

Col 3:13 **Forbearing** one another, and **forgiving** one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ **forgave** you, so also *do* ye.

V. 'Suffering long' causes the fruit of longsuffering to yield contentment and hope

Jas 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

Jas 1:3 Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh **patience**.

Jas 1:4 But let **patience** have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Rom 5:3 And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh **patience**;

Rom 5:4 And **patience**, experience; and experience, hope:

VI. The idea of patiently running—While patiently waiting

Luk 21:19 In your patience possess ye your souls.

Heb 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with **patience** the race that is set before us,

Heb 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Jas 5:7 Be **patient** therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

Jas 5:8 Be ye also **patient**; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

Jas 5:9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

Jas 5:10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of **patience**.

Jas 5:11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

Psa 40:1 I waited **patiently** for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.

Psa 40:2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, *and* established my goings.

Psa 40:3 And he hath put a new song in my mouth, *even* praise unto our God: many shall see *it*, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.

VII. Further thoughts on the connection between patience and hope

Psa 130:5 I **wait** for the LORD, my soul doth **wait**, and in his word do I **hope**.

Rom 8:24 For we are **saved by hope**: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

Rom 8:25 But if we hope for that we see not, *then* do we with **patience** wait for *it*.

Rom 12:12 Rejoicing in **hope**; **patient** in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

1Th 1:3 Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and **patience of hope** in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

1Th 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

1Th 1:6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:

1Th 1:7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.

1Th 1:8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

1Th 1:9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

1Th 1:10 And **to wait for his Son from heaven**, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

2Th 3:5 And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the **patient waiting for Christ**.

Heb 10:35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

Heb 10:36 For **ye have need of patience**, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Heb 10:37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

Heb 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Heb 10:39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

Lam 3:17 And thou hast removed my soul far off from peace: I forgot prosperity.

Lam 3:18 And I said, My strength and my hope is perished from the LORD:

Lam 3:19 Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall.

Lam 3:20 My soul hath *them* still in remembrance, and is humbled in me.

Lam 3:21 This I recall to my mind, **therefore have I hope**.

Lam 3:22 *It is of* the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.

Lam 3:23 *They are* new every morning: great *is* thy faithfulness.

Lam 3:24 The LORD *is* my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.

Lam 3:25 The LORD *is* good unto them that wait for him, to the soul *that* seeketh him.

Lam 3:26 *It is* good that *a man* should both **hope** and **quietly wait** for the salvation of the LORD.

Isa 40:31 But they that **wait** upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.

