

Weekly Summary: Faith Works At Waiting

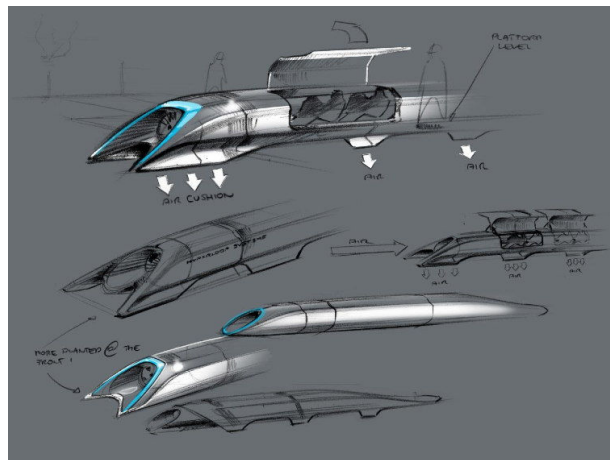
Every farmer knows crops don't grow in a day. And every wise Christian knows God's promises aren't all fulfilled right now. Therefore, we wait patiently for God's perfect timing.

Homework Leading Into This Week: James 5:7-12

Scripture Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

FaithWorks: **A Journey Through James**

Week 10: Faith Works At Waiting



❖ Are you patient?

Examples of impatience in our culture.

Background: Who is James? Who is he writing to?

❖ James 5:7-8 - Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

- ❖ John 14:23 - "I am going to prepare a place for you, And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

Luke 23:43 - "Today you will be with me in paradise."

Revelation 7:16 - 'Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,' nor any scorching heat.

Matthew 22:2 - "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.

- ❖ James 5:8 - You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

- ❖ Point 1: Be patient because **heaven** is on the **horizon**.

- ◆ James 5:9 - Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged.

John 7:3-5 - For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

Luke 23:34 - Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Luke 23:43 - "Today you will be with me in paradise."

James 5:11 - The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

Psalms 103:10 - He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

2 Peter 3:9 - [The Lord] is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish.

1 Corinthians 13:4 - Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

- ❖ Point 2: Give me patience in my **relationships** with others.

- ◆ James 5:10-11 - Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about.

- ◆ Additional references to read: Jeremiah 20:2 / Jeremiah 26:8 / Jeremiah 37:15 / Jeremiah 38:6 / Hosea (Chapters 1-2) / Amos 7:12 / Job (Chapters 1-2)

Romans 5:3 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance.

1 Peter 1:6-8 - Though now for a little while while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

❖ Point 3: Patient suffering produces **perseverance**.

◆ 2 Thessalonians 3:5 - May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

Points to Ponder

1. Can you give other examples of how our culture is addicted to speed ("Faster is better")? List reasons why you or others do not like to wait (Impatience).
2. Jesus is coming back (Day of the Lord), which aspect of life in heaven do you find most uplifting? What earthly struggle(s) will you be most happy to leave behind?
3. How might James (author) have been influenced by the patience of his brother Jesus growing up? Reflect, when, where, have you lost patience with others? What strikes you personally about the patience Jesus has had with you?
4. How do the struggles we face compare with the struggles of some of the prophets? With Job? Explain, How is perseverance a learned Christian characteristic? Do you have a life experience when God taught you perseverance?

Homework For Next Week: James 5:13-20

*"The faith of Christ offers no buttons
to push for quick service."
~ A.W. Tozer*

Worship Through Song at The CORE:

1. "Good Good Father" - by Chris Tomlin
2. "I Look To The King" - by Meredith Andrews
3. "It Is Well (You Make Me Brave)" - by Bethel Music
4. "Thrive" - by Casting Crowns