

THE POWER OF PATIENCE

BISHOP SAMUEL R. BLAKES

The world will tell you that patience is simply the ability to sit still and wait your turn. But in the realm of the spirit, patience is a weapon. It is the armor that protects your mind when the enemy tries to trigger you into forfeiting your promise. Satan's agenda is to make you impulsive, easily offended, and restless, knowing that if he can break your patience, he can sabotage your season.

Patience is not passive. It is the aggressive refusal to step out of the will of God when the pressure is on. When the pain hits, when the wait gets long, and when your emotions are screaming at you to take matters into your own hands, patience is what keeps your mind anchored to the truth of God's Word.

Here is a breakdown of the spiritual power of patience, how it guards our minds, and why we cannot secure the promise without it.

POINT 1: PATIENCE IS HOW YOU PROTECT YOUR MIND FROM DEMONIC TRIGGERS

Scripture:

Luke 21:19 KJV

In your patience possess ye your souls.

The soul is the seat of your intellect, your will, and your emotions. It is where your trauma lives, where your history echoes, and where the enemy launches his heaviest attacks. When Jesus says that we possess our souls

through patience, He is giving us the blueprint for emotional regulation and mind healing. To "possess" your soul means you take ownership of your reactions. You stop letting external chaos dictate your internal climate.

The enemy knows your triggers. He knows what words, what situations, and what people have the capacity to pull you back into old, self-sabotaging mindsets. He will send distractions and offenses designed to make you act out of character, drop your guard, and surrender your peace. Patience is the spiritual discipline that interrupts that cycle. It puts a pause between the offense and your reaction.

When you practice patience, you are evicting the enemy from your emotional space. You are declaring that your mind belongs to God, and you will not allow frustration to drive you into a decision you will have to repent for tomorrow. Patience gives the Holy Spirit time to soothe the triggered places in your soul before you speak or act.

POINT 2: THE FIRE OF THE WAITING ROOM DEVELOPS YOUR CHARACTER

Scripture:

James 1:4 KJV

But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

We love to pray for deliverance, for elevation, and for the sudden breakthrough. But God is just as concerned with your character as He is with your comfort. James tells us that patience has a "perfect work." There is a maturity that can only be forged in the waiting room. If God gives you the blessing before patience has done its work in you, the very thing He designed to bless you will crush you, because your character will lack the strength to carry it.

God uses the waiting period to deal with our wrong attitudes, our lingering bitterness, and our hidden hypocrisies. When things do not happen on our timeline, what is truly inside of us rises to the surface. Anger, entitlement, and frustration bubble up. That is not the enemy attacking you; that is the Holy Spirit exposing what needs to be healed.

Do not fight the process. Let patience do the work. When you allow God to stretch your capacity to endure without complaining, He burns away the immaturity. You come out of the fire "entire, wanting nothing" - which means you are no longer desperate for the applause of men, no longer manipulated by the need for quick fixes, and completely satisfied in the timing of God.

POINT 3: ENDURING AFFLICTION WITHOUT LOSING YOUR PRAISE

Scripture:

Romans 12:12 KJV

Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.

There is a false theology that suggests if you have enough faith, you will never experience pain. But the reality of the believer's walk involves suffering. Tribulation will knock on your door. Sickness, relational betrayal, financial stress, and the sheer exhaustion of life will press against you. Paul gives us the survival strategy: we must be patient in tribulation.

Being patient in tribulation means you refuse to let your current suffering redefine the goodness of God. It is the grit to say, "I am hurting right now, my heart is broken, but I will not allow this pain to turn into bitterness." The enemy uses affliction to plant seeds of resentment against God. He wants you to believe that because you are suffering, God has abandoned you.

Notice the sandwich Paul builds here. Patience in tribulation is wedged right between rejoicing in hope and continuing in prayer. You cannot maintain patience if you lose your hope, and you will lose your hope if you stop praying. When the pressure is heavy, you must double down on your prayer life. You push through the pain, you keep your hands lifted, and you worship God not because the situation is good, but because He remains on the throne regardless of the trial.

POINT 4: THE HARVEST REQUIRES YOU TO OUTLAST THE DEVIL

Scripture:

Hebrews 10:36 KJV

For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Many believers do the will of God – they serve, they give, they forgive, they walk away from toxic relationships, they do the hard work of mind healing – but they quit right before the harvest. They do the will of God, but they lack the patience to wait for the promise. The gap between your obedience and your manifestation is where the real spiritual warfare takes place.

You will have moments where it looks like doing the right thing got you the wrong result. You will look around and see people who compromise thriving, while you are standing on the Word and struggling. That is the moment the enemy will whisper, "What was the point of all that obedience? You might as well give up." That is why the writer of Hebrews says you have need of patience. It is an absolute requirement.

The promise is guaranteed by God, but it is inherited through faith and long-suffering. You have to make up in your mind that you are going to outlast the devil. You are going to outlast the depression, outlast the financial drought, and outlast the season of being misunderstood. When you stand flat-footed in the Spirit and refuse to move, patience bridges the gap between the work you have done and the promise God has spoken. Do not abort your harvest because you got tired of waiting.

