

Patience

I. Introduction-

- The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control. Gal 2:22
- You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Acts 1:8

A. Our mental, emotional, and relational health are defined by our fruit-

B. There is spiritual battle in every Christian between our flesh and the Holy Spirit in us-

- I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. Gal 5:16
- You will recognize them by their fruits. Mat 7:16

Patience= the ability to wait for a long time without becoming annoyed when dealing with problems or with difficult people

Impatience= not patient: restless or short of temper especially under irritation, delay, or opposition

Patience Greek definition=(a noun)= endurance, forbearance, longsuffering, slowness in avenging wrongs

C. Today for all of us-

- No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. I Cor 10:13

II. God is the source and the example of perfect patience-

- I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me; I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that was not called by my name. 2 I spread out my hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; 3 a people who provoke me to my face continually, Isa 65:1

A. God is patient with each of us-

- Do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? Rom 2:4
- Do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. II Pet 3:8

B. God is patient with His children as we grow and mature-

- Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13 Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Phil 3:12

C. God is patient with our country and our world-

- Do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will **III. The battle between patience and impatience is a battle over control-**
- The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. Prov 16:9
- Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 19 Do not quench the Spirit. I Thes 5:19
- I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. Gal 5:16

III. The battle between patience and impatience-

A. God is control of every event, person, or circumstance that we face-

- The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Ps 103:19
- Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Phil 29

God= the Being perfect in power, wisdom, and goodness who is worshipped as creator and **ruler of the universe**

B. To deny God's sovereignty over is to say God is impotent and He is wrong!

- You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, He has no understanding"? Isa 29:16
He doesn't understand what he's doing"?
Does a machine call its inventor dumb?

C. There will be a moment when we will understand God patience with us-

- Love is patient and kind. I Cor 13:4
- Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends. -- For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. I Cor 13:7 & 12

IV. How to win the battle the Spirit of God and or flesh-

- Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. Gal 6:7

A. Feed the Spirit-

1. Abide in Jesus-

- I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. Jn 15:5

2. Abide in God's word-

- Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. I Pet 2:2
- For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Heb 4:12

3. Fix our minds on God and the things of God-

- If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Col 3:1

B. Trust God in the process of life-

- Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. ⁵If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. I Jam 1:2