

J A M E S

How to Develop Patience in Suffering

James 5:7_a (NIV) “Be patient (macrothumos/long heat), then, brothers and sisters ...”

How can I be patient when I'm suffering?

1. Live every day like Jesus will return today.

James 5:7_a (NIV) “Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord’s coming (parousia/arrival).”

James 5:7-8 (NIV) “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. ⁸You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord’s coming is near.”

Revelation 14:16 (NIV) “So [Jesus] who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.”

2. Stop grumbling about other believers and churches.

James 5:9 (NIV) “Don’t grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!”

Galatians 5:15-16_a (NIV) “If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. ¹⁶So I say, walk by the Spirit ...”

3. Follow the example of the prophets and share the Word of God.

James 5:10 (NIV) “Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.”

Jeremiah 1:8 (NIV) “‘Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,’ declares the LORD. ⁹Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, ‘I have put my words in your mouth.’”

4. Persevere because there is a better day coming.

James 5:11 (NIV) “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. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy."

Job 1:20-21 (NIV) "At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship ²¹and said: 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.'"

James 5:11_b (NIV) "The Lord is full of compassion and mercy."

1 Peter 1:7 (NIV) "These (trials) 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."