



Day 11

James 5:7-11

James tells us to “be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord” (v.7). Then he gives a picture: a farmer. The farmer cannot control the rain or the timing of the harvest. He does not dig up the seeds every day to check on them. He works, sows, waits, trusting that the precious fruit is coming.

That is what waiting on God looks like. You don’t control the timing. You don’t control all the circumstances. But you keep plowing, sowing, praying, obeying, trusting that God is doing something underground that you cannot see.

James also points us to the prophets and Job (vv. 10-11). Their waiting was not neat and tidy. It involved suffering, tears, and questions. Yet in the end, “the Lord is compassionate and merciful” (v. 11). Waiting is not proof that God is cruel; it is often proof of His compassion. It is in the waiting that the Lord’s compassion and mercy shine the brightest.

The world says, “If God loved you, He’d hurry.” Scripture says, “Because God loves you, He is working something better.”

So then, what do you do while you wait?

1 - Establish your heart (v.8). This means to strengthen your soul, build your inner life on a firm foundation.

2 - Refuse to grumble (v.9). It would be easy to start to complain against others or against God. Part of establishing your heart in the waiting is refusing to grumble.

3 - Remember the purpose of the Lord (vv.7,9). James says we must be patient “until...” This means there is an expiration date on your patience. God has a good purpose for your waiting. Your patience will one day come to an end. So, let’s vow today that we will wait for that with patience and obedience.

Pray: “Lord, make me patient like a farmer. Establish my heart. Guard my tongue from grumbling. Help me trust that You are compassionate and merciful in all my waiting.”