



WEDNESDAY EVENING

AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: The Power of Patience

Passage: James 5:7-11

Speaker: Pastor Dan Preston

Introduction: Patience doesn't come naturally to most of us. We've all felt it. Those moments when waiting stretches our nerves thin and frustration takes over. Whether it's traffic, lines, decisions, people, or even waiting on God, every day gives us opportunities to practice patience. Waiting is unavoidable; the real question is how we will wait. In our passage, James speaks to believers whose patience is wearing thin under hardship and injustice. By the Spirit of God, he shows us that patience is not only possible, but powerful, when it is rooted in the coming of the Lord.

I. **When We Are Tempted to Lose Patience, Remember it Will Be Worth the Wait** (Verses 7-8a)

Impatience is a natural response. Patience is a supernatural response.

The believer endures not because the world is fair, but because Christ is coming to make it right.

God is doing more under the soil than you can see above it.

Two Models to Follow:

A. The Prophets

They spoke the truth and suffered for it. They were mocked, ignored, mistreated, yet they remained faithful.



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B. Job

Job suffered without answers. He endured unimaginable loss. He couldn't explain a single thing happening to him, but he held on.

II. When You Are Tempted to Lose Perspective, Strengthen Your Relationship With the Lord (Verse 8b)

How to establish our hearts:

A. Through Prayer

Prayer steadies the soul, reorients our values, and renews our strength.

B. Through Scripture

God's Word is the steel beam in the spine of the believer.

C. Through Christian Fellowship

A weak heart isolates itself. A strong heart leans on the body.

III. When We Are Tempted to Blame Others, Remember That Grumbling Does Not Help (Verse 9)

James warns against grumbling because:

A. Grumbling is Contagious

A complaining spirit spreads faster than a virus.

B. Grumbling Misrepresents God

It implies God is mismanaging our lives.

C. Grumbling Destroys Unity



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Churches do not usually explode. They erode. Slowly. Quietly. With murmuring.

D. Grumbling Invites Judgement

Christ is near. His return is imminent, and He hears every whispered complaint.

Conclusion: James reminds us that patience is shaped by perspective and anchored in Christ. When impatience rises, remember the Lord is coming and the harvest is sure. Strengthen your heart through prayer, Scripture, and fellowship, and resist the urge to grumble, knowing the Judge is at the door. This week, let your life be living proof; choosing patience over reaction, gratitude over complaint, and trusting that Christ is near, His Spirit is strong, and His grace is sufficient.



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