



A Letter from James



Godly Patience

Patience and Forbearance

Patience is the ability to endure difficult circumstances, delay gratification, and maintain a calm demeanor without complaint.

Forbearance is closely related to patience, but involves self-control and restraint when provoked, harmed or persecuted. Having a long fuse by being patient and not exploding at God or others.

James 5: 7 “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. 8 You too, **be patient** and stand firm, because the Lord’s coming is near. 9 Don’t grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!”

10 “Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

11 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**.”

12 “Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear – not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple ‘Yes’ or ‘No’. Otherwise you will be condemned.”



Does the Lord Hear Us?

Psalm 40:1 “I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and **heard my cry.** 2 He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. 3 He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him.”

Galatians 5:22 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance (patience), kindness, goodness, 23 faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.”



God is Patient with us

2 Peter 3: 8 “But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is **patient with you**, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”

10 “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. 11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives”

12 “as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. 13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.”