

God's Way Through Adversity / James 5:7-12
Joe Carnuccio / Sunday, August 9th

Passage Summary

James encourages his readers to patiently endure with their oppressors until Jesus' return. He exhorts them to stand firm, not to grumble, but to remain true to each other, looking to the example of the prophets before them and keeping their word.

Action Steps

1. Patiently endure.
2. Stand Firm.
3. Speak charitably.
4. Follow tested examples.
5. Remember God's character.
6. Keep your word.

Scripture Meditation

James 5:7-8

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient.

Message Takeaway

1. How did you hear God speaking to you?
2. In what ways were you strengthened?
3. Where do you need help?
4. What can you apply today?

Going Deeper in Application

1. Consider a time when you endured patiently unto the Lord while experiencing difficult circumstances. What helped you to remain steadfast?
2. What situations currently in your life is God calling you to patiently endure by standing firm and adhering to your faith?
3. What it is like for you to currently wait for Jesus' return?
4. How are you seeing God at work in and around you as you wait on the Lord?

Further Study (Read James 5:7-12)

1. What does the word patient mean as James uses it in this text? How does the illustration of the farmer, rain and crops provide context in defining your answer?
2. How does the coming justice of Jesus' return help inform his reader's perspective on the injustice and suffering, which they are experiencing?
3. What effect can impatience have on one another? What is the connection that James is making between impatience and a grumbling heart?
4. What does the phrase in verse 8 "establish your hearts" mean, practically speaking?
5. What two characteristics about God does James mention in order to comfort and encourage the believer?
6. What is James encouraging the Christians of his day to emulate in in the life and character of the prophets and of Job? How are the prophets and Job examples of patient endurance?
7. What wrong attitudes or practices with regard to taking oaths is James confronting?