



Closing the Gap Between Belief and Behavior!
September 21, 2025 – The Book of James
Closing the Gap by being patient!

James 5:7-12

⁷Be 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.

⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

¹²But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

Romans 12:19

“Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”

Romans 16:20

The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Isaiah 40:31

but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Romans 8:25

But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

***Be patient...because
evil reigns now BUT judgment is coming!***

1. Build patience, by faith in Jesus the Avenger and Righteous Judge!

James 5:1-8, Miseries, eat your flesh like fire, last days, reached the ears of the Lord, day of slaughter, coming of the Lord 2x

1) Remember that all have sinned and the wage of sin is death (judgment)!
See Romans 3:10ff, 23; 6:23; John 3:18

2) Remember death/judgment ultimately comes at the end of the age!
See Romans 2:6, 8-9 and Revelation 20:11-15

Patience comes, by faith in Christ the Avenger and Righteous Judge!
See Romans 12:19; 16:20

2. Build patience, by faith in Jesus the Savior!

(James 5:11b)

See John 3:16, Romans 5:8,10; 1 John 5:13

-- Be doers of the word who act! --

Learn patience, by faith:

1) learn patience *by faith!*

“to be longsuffering, slow to anger” (by faith)

Romans 8:25, But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

2) learn to wait on the Lord *by faith!*

Isaiah 40:31 and Psalm 27:14

3) learn to establish your heart *by faith!*

Luke 18:1 and Proverbs 4:23

4) learn not to grumble *by faith!*

Philippians 2:12-14

5) learn to suffer *by faith!*

Romans 8:18 and 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

6) learn from godly examples: (prophets and Job)

Job 1:20-22

Application questions on the back →

--- Close the Gap by being patient! ---

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SUNDAY after church...

Think through your morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give! 2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received! 3) List songs or lyrics that touched your heart.

MONDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTED** We often feel that evil is winning the day, and this can cause our hearts to be troubled or even bitter. Spiritually, what is off track when we feel this way?

PRAY: Pray over your observations and applications.

TUESDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** We usually look at Jesus as the Savior, which He wonderfully is! But how does it differ when you look at Him as the Avenger and Righteous Judge? How do we look at the evil in our world differently? **Pray:** Pray over your applications.

WEDNESDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** When we focus on the evil in our world, how does it change when we remember the purpose of the Lord in salvation? How does it help build patience?

Pray: Pray over your applications.

THURSDAY and FRIDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** From the points on the front that describe patience, pick one or two and write out how the verses help you build patience. Why is Biblical patience always "by faith"?

PRAY: Pray over your observations and applications.

SATURDAY

Prepare your heart for Sunday's gathering by being ready to fully engage in the worship.