

# Add to Your Self-control Patience

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. The King James version and many other versions use the word patience rather than *perseverance*. The word means: Bearing all trials and difficulties with an even mind, enduring in all, and persevering through all.
- B. This is a very precious Christian grace, but it is also difficult to add.
- C. We need *patience* in the zeal and eagerness of youth. We also need *patience* in firm purpose and severe tempers of manhood.
- D. As we begin to experience the gloom of old age, we must also have *patience*.
- E. Another way of defining patience is “uncomplaining endurance.”

## I. THE IMPORTANCE OF PATIENCE.

- A. As with the other Christian graces, Peter says giving all diligence add *patience*.
  - 1. Paul enjoined patience upon servants of God. (1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Timothy 2:24)
  - 2. James also encourages patience. (James 5:7)
- B. We have identified seven areas where we might need patience. Let us examine the scriptures:
  - 1. **We need patience in tribulation.**
    - a. Consider Paul's words to the Christians in Rome. Paul wrote, ***“Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer.”*** (Romans 12:10-12)
      - 1) *[Patient in tribulation]* Remembering that what you suffer as Christians you suffer for Christ's sake; and it is to His honour, and the honour of your Christian profession, that you suffer it

with an even mind.

- b. There is no glory to suffer for our own faults but when you suffer for Christ and do it patiently, there is glory. (1 Peter 2:20)
- c. It is commendable to suffer for Christ. (Matthew 5:11-12; 1 Peter 2:19-20; 1 Peter 4:12-13)
- d. Let's look as some examples of patience in tribulation.
  - 1) Christ is our greatest example. (1 Peter 2:21-23)
  - 2) The Thessalonians are another good example. (1 Thessalonians 2:14; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4)
  - 3) The last example of patience in tribulation is when James cited the patience of the prophets. (James 5:10; Acts 7:52; 2 Chronicles 36:15-16)

**2. We also need patience in well doing.**

- a. Paul reminded the Christians in Rome of the ***“eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;”*** (Romans 2:5-7)
- b. We must commit our souls to God in well doing. (1 Peter 4:19)
- c. The Christian must not be weary in well doing. (Galatians 6:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:13)
- d. We must always remember that our service to God is not in vain. (1 Corinthians 15:58; 1 Peter 2:15)

**3. We must have patience in dealing with the disorderly.**

- a. We should warn the unruly with much patience. (1 Thessalonians 5:14)
- b. We should restore them in meekness while considering one self. (Galatians 6:1)
- c. We should admonish the disorderly as a brother. (2 Thessalonians

3:14-15)

4. **We must have patience in the Christian race.**
    - a. Consider the admonition to ***“run with endurance”*** as seen in the Hebrew letter. (Hebrews 12:1)
    - b. There will be many hardships and difficulties to meet in this race.
    - c. It is a continuous race and we must run to the end. (Matthew 24:12-13)
    - d. The apostle Paul not only ran the race but looked forward to the prize. (1 Corinthians 9:24; 1 Timothy 4:7-8)
  5. **We must have patience in the oppressions of life.**
    - a. We may be properly oppressed at sin. (2 Peter 2:4-8)
    - b. Little vexations (oppressions) must not upset us – flat tires, late for work, sickness, etc. (James 1:19-20; Ephesians 4:26; Proverbs 14:16)
  6. **We must have *patience* with regard to each other.**
    - a. The Christian should be peacemakers. (Matthew 5:9; Proverbs 15:18)
    - b. Christians must be forbearing one another in love. (Ephesians. 4:1-2)
  7. **Finally, we must have patience in waiting for our reward.** (Romans 8:25)
    - a. The farmer is an excellent example of one having patience in waiting for the rewards of his labor. (James 5:7-8)
    - b. Don't decide that the Lord is delaying His coming. (2 Peter 3:3-4)
- C. Let's look at what produces *patience*.
1. Tribulation works *patience*. (Romans 5:3; James 1:2-3)
  2. The examples of others move us to develop patience. (Hebrews 6:11-12)
- D. What are the results of *patience*?

1. Patience helps us to be an influence for good.
2. Patience prepares us for the eternal reward after our life on earth. (Romans 15:4; 2 Peter 1:4)

**CONCLUSION.**

- A. Being patient in spirit is better than being proud. (Ecclesiastes 7:8-9)
- B. It is not always best to say what you think. The old saying: “It is better to keep your mouth shut and be thought a fool rather than to open it and remove all doubt” certainly holds true here.
- C. Patience does not conflict with the second Christian grace of courage.