

FRUIT THAT'S GOOD FOR THE BODY

PATIENCE

JAMES 1:1-7 & 5:7-11

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May 16, 2010

I. What is *patience*?

♦ Patience is a calm *endurance* based on the certain knowledge that God is in control.

“What we wait for is not more important than what happens to us while we’re waiting.” - - Ben Patterson

II. What is the “*work*” of patience?

A. Patience produces *maturity*

teleios: “a maturing growth”

1. The *significance* of trials

peirasmos: *tests* and *temptations*

a. Trials are tests from *God*

- Not *if* but *when*

b. Trials work *for* you not *against* you

c. Trials are *opportunities* not *obstacles*

d. Trials produce *endurance*: the patience we need to be *complete*

2. The *selfish* response to trials

a. Seek *relief*, *avoid*, or *escape*

3. The *supernatural* response to trials

a. *Rejoice*: God is at work and we get to *grow*

b. *Pray*: for wisdom: *Wait* on God and find out what He wants to do

c. *Study* for the test: Ask God’s *wisdom* on how to pass

B. Patience produces *champions* - James 1:12

1. Victory comes at a *cost*

a. In order to wear the *crown*, you’ve got to carry the *cross* - 2 Corinthians 4:8

C. Patience produces *peace* - James 5:7-11

1. The law of the *harvest*: You reap what you *sow*

a. A harvest takes time to *produce*

b. A harvest cannot be *rushed*

♦ Peace comes when we patiently wait on God’s *timing*

III. How do we *practice* patience?

Psalms 37:7

A. We wait on *God*

1. *Soaring*

2. *Running*

3. *Walking*