

Waiting
Faith
James 5:7-20

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7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

James 5:7-20 - continued

10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

James 5:7-20 - continued

13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

James 5:7-20 - continued

16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

17 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

James 5:7-20 - continued

19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;

20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

Five Encouragements For Living In The Shadow of Christ's Return

- 1. Be Prepared for the Lord's Return**
- 2. Be Patient with People and Circumstances**
- 3. Be Precise In Your Decisions**
- 4. Be Prayerful In All Things**
- 5. Be Passionate For The Souls of Men**

I. Be Prepared for the Lord's Return (7a)

James 5:7a

Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord.



We must live in anticipation of the Lord's return

I. Be Prepared for the Lord's Return (7a)

James 5:7a

Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord.

A. Do not be surprised

coming (parousia) = presence of the Lord

Matthew 24:46

Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

B. How shall we prepare for Christ's return?

Receive salvation and live ready

I. Be Prepared for the Lord's Return (7a)

**Will You Hear “Well Done” or
“How Dumb”?**

Matthew 7:13

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

I. Be Prepared for the Lord's Return (7a)

Matthew 7:21-23

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

II. Be Patient with People and Circumstances (vv 7b-11)

James 5:7b-11

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8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

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II. Be Patient with People and Circumstances (vv 7b-11)

James 5:7b-11 - continued

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II. Be Patient with People and Circumstances (vv 7b-11)

A. An expectation (v 7)

- 1. patient (makrothumeo) = long fused to anger or long-tempered**
- 2. Patience is not the same as tolerance**

II. Be Patient with People and Circumstances (vv 7b-11)

B. Three examples

1. The farmer – keep working (vv 7-9)

Patience is expectant, established, and energetic

2. The prophets – keep sharing (v 10)

Example – Jeremiah

3. The man Job – keep trusting (v 11)

Galatians 6:9

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

II. Be Patient with People and Circumstances (vv 7b-11)

C. Two encouragements (vv 8-9)

1. Be persistent - by establishing your heart

a. Stablish (sterizo) = to fix, make fast, be resolute

b. Live as if everything depends on us, knowing all the while that we absolutely depend on God

2. Be positive – by not holding a grudge

a. Grudge (stenazo) = to groan, a sigh

b. Israel in the wilderness blaming Moses and Aaron

c. Grudges are not to be part of our lives

III. Be Precise In Your Decisions (v 12)

James 5:12

But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

A. Live with integrity

- 1. swear – make promises while invoking God's name**
- 2. We should live as if God hears every word we say**

B. The consequence of not doing so

Matthew 12:37

For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

IV. Be Prayerful In All Things (vv 13-18)

James 5:13-18

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14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

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IV. Be Prayerful In All Things (vv 13-18)

A. Three aspects of prayer to exercise

1. Petition – Pray for yourself when in trouble

2. Praise – Celebrate God when times are good

3. Plead – Have others pray for you when you're sick

IV. Be Prayerful In All Things (vv 13-18)

B. Four reasons for sickness that should drive us to prayer

- 1. Sin – the wages of sin is death and we reap what we sow**
- 2. God working to mature us; to force us to depend on Him alone**
- 3. God giving us a cross to carry for His glory**
- 4. Living in a sinful world**

IV. Be Prayerful In All Things (vv 13-18)

C. Three necessary conditions

1. You must ask for prayer

2. You must confess your sins

3. You must seek righteousness

V. Be Passionate For The Souls of Men

(vv 19-20)

James 5:19-20

19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;

20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

V. Be Passionate For The Souls of Men

(vv 19-20)

- A. We must rescue people from the condemnation of their sinfulness**
- B. Our job is not to try to convince, convict, cajole, or convert but to convey God's truth**

V. Be Passionate For The Souls of Men

(vv 19-20)

Galatians 6:1-5

1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.

4 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

5 For every man shall bear his own burden.

V. Be Passionate For The Souls of Men

(vv 18-20)

**Who Would Not Want
To Rescue Someone In
Need Of Help?**

**Is Our Faith Foolproof
Or Foolish?**