

The Virtue of Patience

(Luke 21:19)

- Introduction:
1. Patience is one of the Christian virtues, that if we possess, we will never stumble (2 Pet. 1:5-11).
 2. Thus, if one wishes to go to Heaven, the possession and development of these characteristics must be paramount.

I. The Definition Of Patience

- A. When people today think of patience, they think of bearing up under trials or hardships **without complaint**.
- B. However, patience may be better defined as endurance, and perseverance and not so much “quietly enduring” or enduring without patience.
- C. Consider the book of Job.

II. Areas In Which We Need Patience

- A. We need patience with ourselves.
 1. (1 Peter 2:1-3)
 2. Christianity is a process of growth, not an event.
- B. We need patience in our marriages.
 1. Divorce is epidemic in our society.
 2. (1 Peter 3:7)
 3. (Ephesians 5:22-33; Ephesians 4:32).
- C. We need to be patient in soul-winning.
 1. (1 Peter 3:1-4).
 2. (2 Peter 2:5) Noah.
 3. (2 Timothy 4:2) We are to teach with all longsuffering.
- D. We must be patient in church growth.
 1. The mission of the church is to glorify Christ (Eph. 3:21).
 2. Growth is out of our hands, faithfulness is our concern (1 Corinthians 3:6-7; 2 Corinthians 4:2).
- E. We need to be patient regarding the coming of the Lord.
 1. Jesus is coming back (Acts 1:11).
 2. (2 Peter 3:4,9).

Conclusion:

1. The development of patience will help to keep us from falling.
2. May we work more diligently to be patient, and follow the example set before us by Jesus Christ.