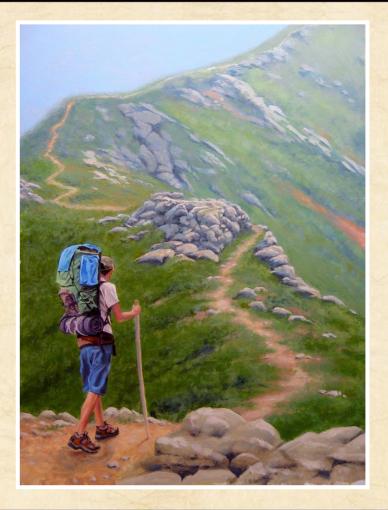
IF YE DO THESE THINGS. YE SHALL NEVER

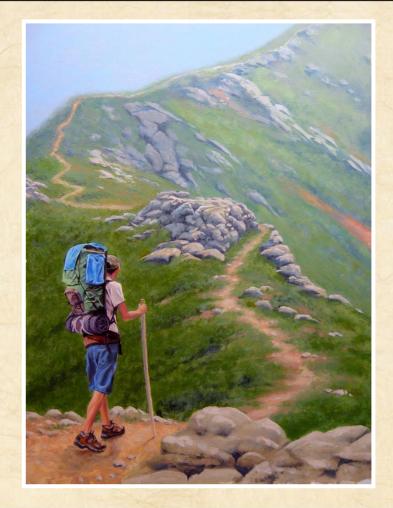


Lesson Six

Patience



But faith without works is dead, so we must add to our faith good works or virtue.



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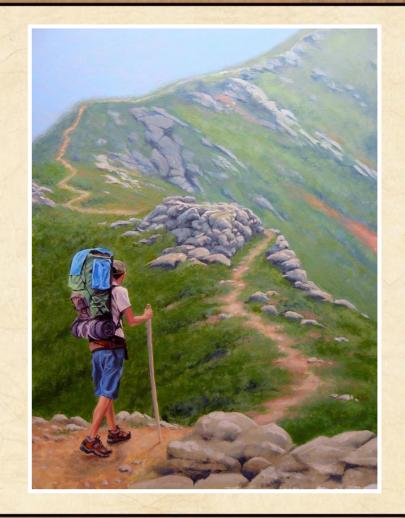
But works can be misguided, and so we must add to virtue, knowledge.



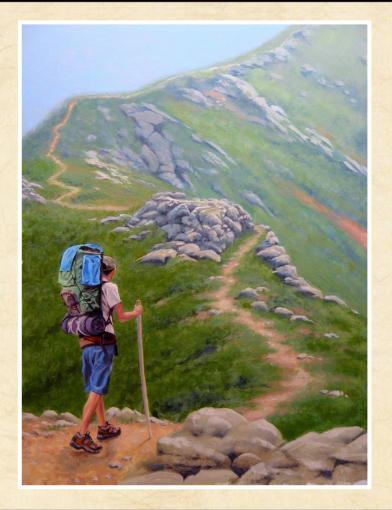
But faith without works is dead, so we must add to our faith good works or virtue.

But works can be misguided, and so we must add to virtue, knowledge.

But knowledge alone puffs up, so we must add to knowledge, self-control or temperance.



But many of God's promises do not come to pass in this lifetime, and so we must add to temperance, patience.



2 Peter 1:5-7, 10

⁵ And beside this, giving all diligence,

add to your faith virtue;

and to virtue knowledge;

And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience;

and to patience god! Patience is the 5th component in Peter's exhortation.

And to godliness brotherly kindness charity.

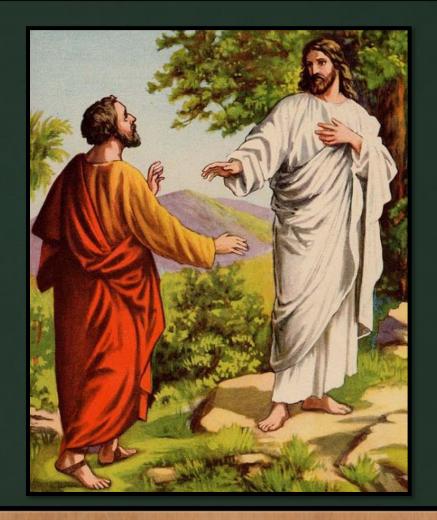
10 ... for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:





There must have been times Peter considered himself the most privileged human to ever live, hearing and seeing the things he did.

We can also assume that his experiences were not always pleasant. For 3½ years, he was continually challenged, reproved, and chastised both privately and publicly by someone who was never wrong.



It was during a time of intimate instruction when Jesus taught Peter the value of patience:

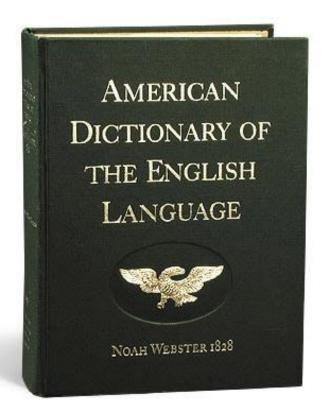
Luke 8:15

But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. Hear the Word of God, Keep it, And bring forth fruit with patience.

There is no better description of Christian living.

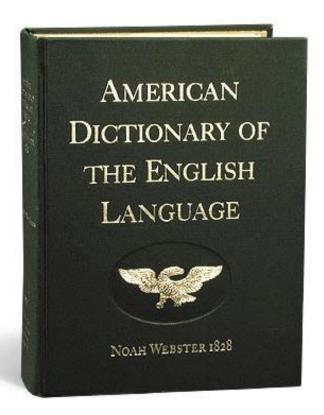
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PATIENCE

The act or quality of waiting long for justice or expected good without discontent; bearing offences and injuries without anger or revenge.

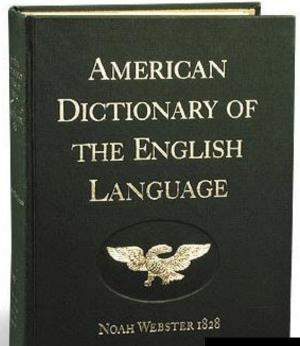


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HOW you wait: without anger or revenge.

WHAT you await: justice or expected good.



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PATIENCE is often confused with TOLERANCE, the power or capacity of enduring; or the act of enduring. Tolerance is more closely related to TEMPERANCE.

Time passes between doing the will of God and receiving the reward of your labor. This is why we need patience.

Hebrews 10:36

For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.



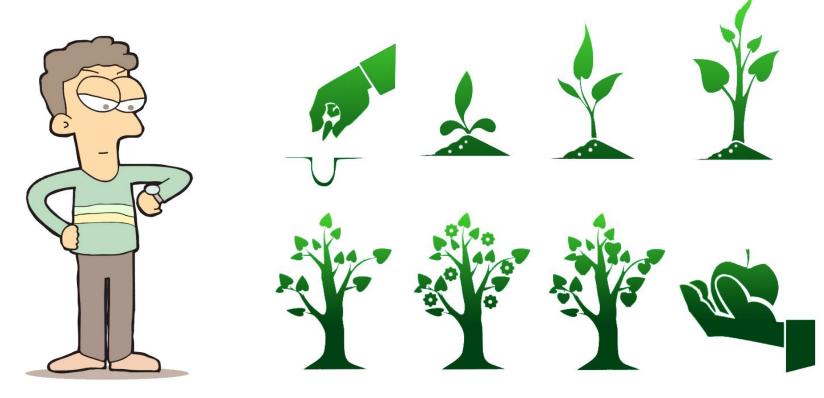
How much time do YOU give God to answer your prayers?

Nature itself teaches us the need for patience:

James 5:7-8

- 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.

Only a fool expects to eat fruit an hour after planting the seed.





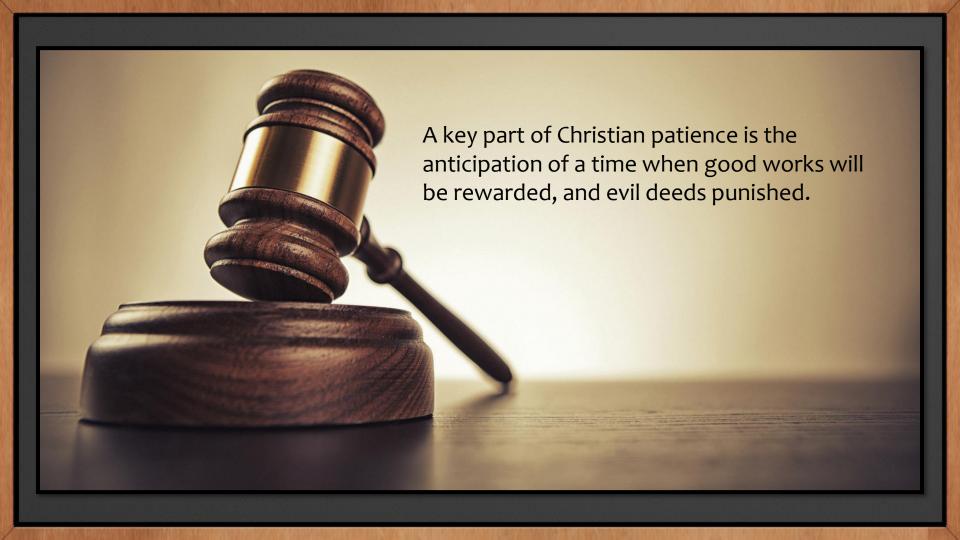
Galatians 6:9

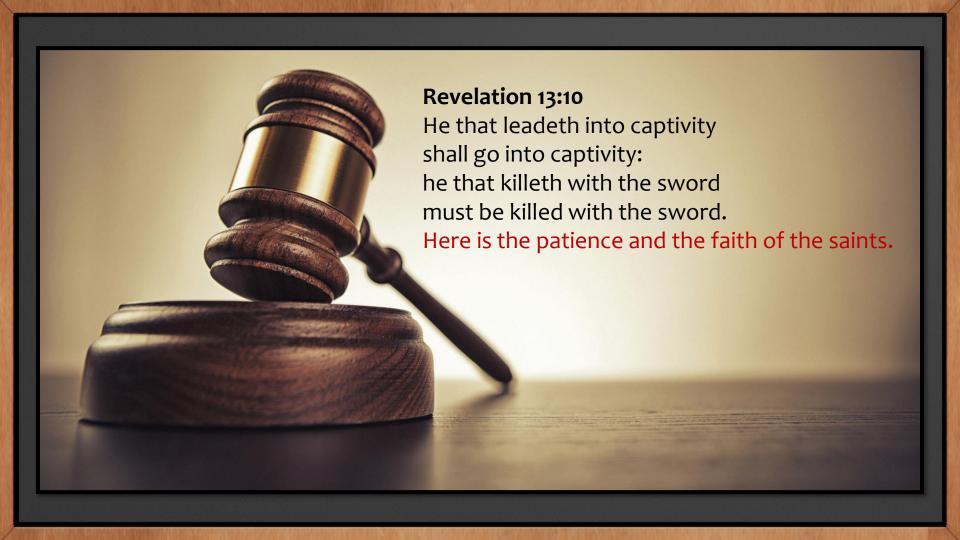
And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

We need faith and patience to inherit the promises of God.

Hebrews 6:11-12

- 11 And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:
- 12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.





In this life, you will be hated and perhaps even punished for serving the Lord Jesus.

John 15:18-19

- ¹⁸ If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.
- 19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

Finding the faith to "turn the other cheek" may be our most difficult test.

Matthew 5:38-39

- 38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:
- 39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

But when you return evil for evil, you become a participant in evil.

1 Thessalonians 5:15

See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

Rarely do Christians occupy the upper tiers of society.

1 Corinthians 1:26-27

- ²⁶ For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*:
- ²⁷ But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

Many of the early Christians were indentured servants or slaves. Some overseers were kind but many were not.

Peter taught servants to endure injustice for the sake of the gospel.

1 Peter 2:18

Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.

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unreasonably harsh

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If Christian SLAVES get such an admonition, what about Christian EMPLOYEES?



No one deserves commendation for accepting his deserved punishment.

But when we suffer maltreatment without complaint, we show that Christ is ruling our heart.

1 Peter 2:20

For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.

This passage continues with a reminder that no one suffered more for doing good than Christ himself.

1 Peter 2:21-23

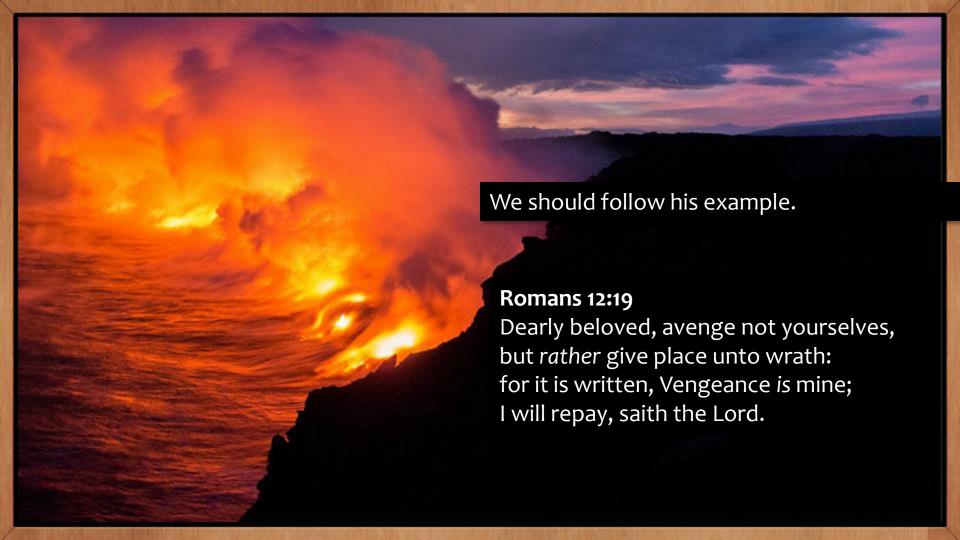
- ²¹ For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:
- Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:
- Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:

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Jesus left vengeance to God.







For now, our rest is found in patiently waiting for him:

Psalm 37:7-11

- 7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.
- 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

- For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.
- For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.
- 11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

Would you like to be an example of patience to the church?



Know that patience lies at the end of a very rocky road.



James 1:2-4

- My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;
- ³ Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.
- ⁴ But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

All of our worldly woes are only for a moment:

2 Corinthians 4:17

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; If you want to stand and not fall away from the faith, you must learn the art of patient endurance:

James 5:10-11

- 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.

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Let us compare his start and finish:

His beginning:

Job 1:1-3

- There was a man in the land of Uz,
 whose name was Job; and that man
 was perfect and upright, and one that
 feared God, and eschewed evil.
 And there were born unto him seven
 - sons and three daughters.
 His substance also was seven thousand
- sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

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His end:

Job 42:12-13

- of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses.
- ¹³ He had also seven sons and three daughters.

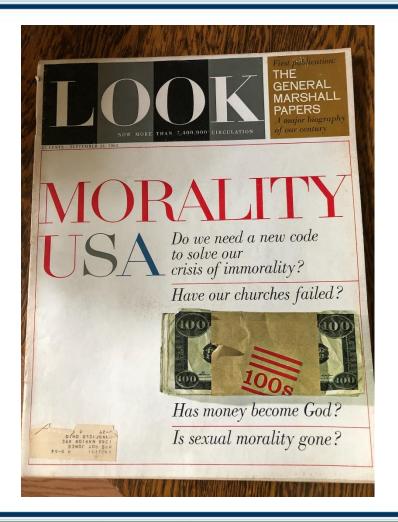
His beginning 7,000 sheep	6,000 camels 1,000 yoke of oxen 1,000 she asses



What lesson can we learn from Job?

Ecclesiastes 7:8

Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.



It doesn't take a lot of insight to see that our society has gone astray.



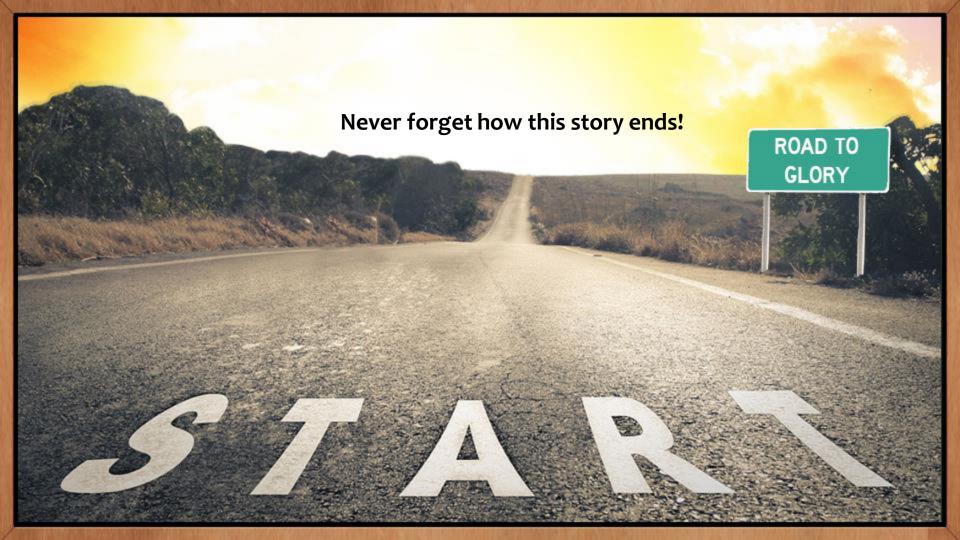
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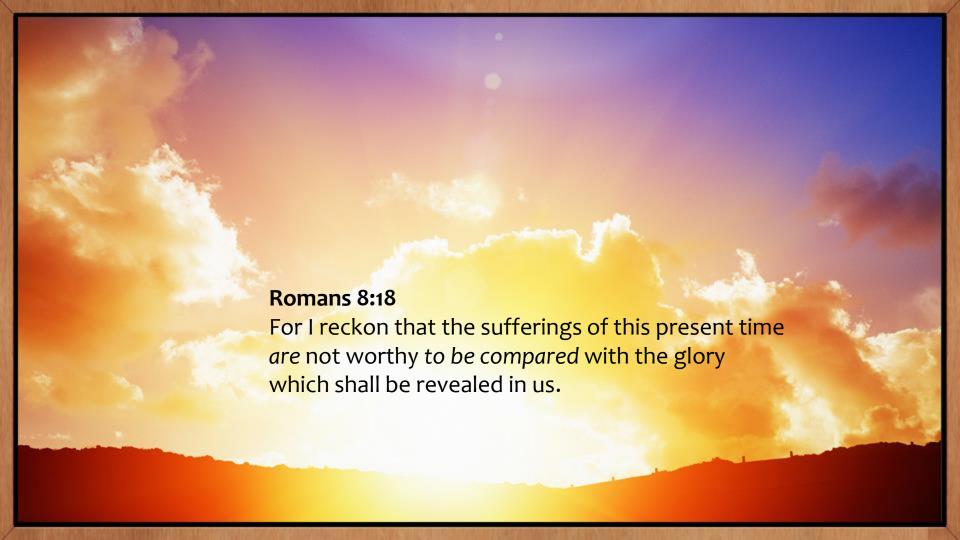


Don't lose your diligence.

2 Timothy 3:13

But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.





Revelation 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Romans 8:24-25

- For we are saved by hope:
 but hope that is seen is not hope:
 for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?
- 25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.





WE NEED PATIENCE.

IF YE DO THINGS, YE SHALL

Next: And to Patience, add Godliness



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