

12. Patience (Perseverance)

How often do we find ourselves, during times of trials, asking God for “patience-and please hurry!” The work “patience” means “long-tempered”. It is the opposite of having what is know as a “short-fuse”. Patience is the ability to control ones self. It indicates perseverance, endurance, steadfastness, and long-suffering. Patience is that calm and unruffled temper with which the good man hears the evils of life, whether they proceed from persons or things.

Begin memorizing James 1:4 (NKJV)

“But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”

Men may tempt and provoke God, yet He displays incredible patience towards man. Many Bible commentators believe that God waited for men to repent of their wickedness for 120 years while Noah was building the ark.

1. Read Genesis 6:1-22. How many people were saved in all from the flood? 1 Peter 3:20

2. Read Genesis 12:3-4, 17:2, 18:10 and 21:5. When God makes a promise He keeps it. It took 25 years for Gods promise to Abraham to take place. What did Abraham do during this period of time?

Hebrews 6:15 _____

3. According to II Peter 3:9, how patient (long-suffering) is the Lord?

4. Patience is bound up in? 1 Corinthians 13:4

Patience and love are like peace and joy. The two go hand in hand. The loving act is often to restrain ones words or actions.

5. Read Colossians 1:9-11. As we grow in the knowledge of God, it causes us to be strengthened with all power. For what purpose? Vs. 11. _____

6. As a child of God you are to clothe yourself with what kind of behavior? Colossians 3:12-13

7. The Scriptures tell us to be patient with how many people? 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15

8. Just how long are we to be patient with everyone? James 5:7-10.

9. How do we come to acquire patience?

Matthew 21:22 _____

Romans 15: 5 _____

Galatians 5:22 _____

Patience or long-suffering is part of the fruit the Holy Spirit gives. We receive the fruit of the Spirit as we walk closely with Jesus, in obedience to Him. God is the author of patience in His servants.

In II Corinthians 6:3-10 we read of the many hardships that Paul encountered during his ministry. Yet, he steadfastly showed himself to be a minister of God by his character.

10. What were some of the characteristics of Paul? Vs. 6

11. How are we to be during times of affliction? Romans 12:12

12. What is involved in waiting for the Lord?

Psalms 37:7 _____

Psalms 40:1 _____

As we come to grow in faith, purity, knowledge, self-control and patience, we move forward toward a genuine reverence of God that will govern attitude toward every aspect of life.

13. According to II Peter 1:6, what is the virtue that follows patience?

14. Are you growing in godliness? _____

Write out your memory verse:

15. Do you have any questions, problems or comments that you would like to share with us?



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