

**Reflection Questions:** Do I maintain a patient spirit when hard times hit? Do I grumble and complain against those around me when tough times come? How patient am I with the shortcomings of others?

How can I pray for others and our church this week?

### Quotes to Ponder

*We neither drift into holiness nor are we wafted there by some heavenly visitation; we grow to holiness and, like every harvest, it is a process.*

J. A. Motyer

*Keep hoping when the delay seems interminable, keep trusting when God's timing seems questionable, and keep working for righteousness when results seem meager.*

David Allen Hubbard

*Waiting is our destiny. as creatures who cannot by themselves bring about what they hope for; we wait in the darkness for a flame we cannot light. we wait in fear for a happy ending that we cannot write. we wait for a 'not yet' that feels like a 'not ever.' Waiting is the hardest work of hope.*

Lewis Smedes

*Patience and forbearance hardly lead our lists of most desirable virtues. Yet Scripture says patience and forbearance are essential to the good life, the blessed life.*

*Scripture never promotes the question **when** will Christ return? It always promotes the question, **ill you be ready** when He returns?*

Daniel M. Doriani

*Stability may not be a spectacular grace, but it is a vital one.*

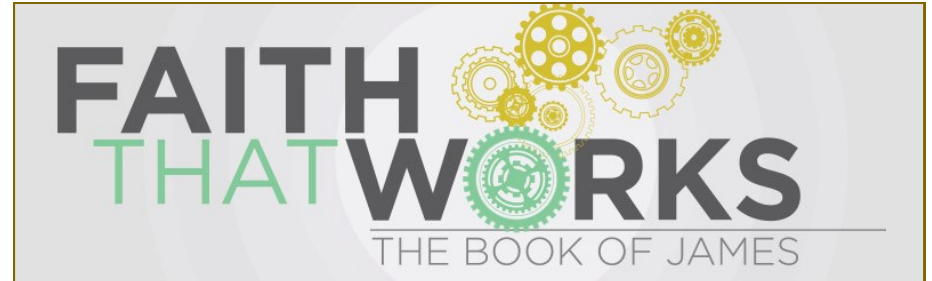
Sinclair Ferguson

*A promise made is a debt unpaid.*

Robert Service

*When God shall give you a rich return for all you have done for him, you will blush to think you ever doubted; you will be ashamed to think you ever grew weary in his service. You shall have your reward. Not tomorrow, so wait: not the next day perhaps, so be patient. You may be full of doubts one day, your joys sink low. It may be rough windy weather with you in your spirit. You may even doubt whether you are the Lord's, but if you have rested in the name of Jesus, if by the grace of God you are what you are, if he is all your salvation, and all your desire, — have patience; have patience, for the reward will surely come in God's good time.*

Charles Spurgeon



#23 Patiently Waiting (5:7-9)

*Sermon Notes*

August 25, 2019

1. Be Doubly Patient (7-8)

2. Strengthen Your Heart (8)

3. Do Not Complain (9)

1. What in the text/sermon impacted you most? Encouraged you? Convicted you? Challenged you? Confused you?

*Romans 13:12* —

*1 Peter 4:7* —

2. How does *James 5:7-12* fit in with what's come before it?

*Titus 2:13* —

*1 John 2:18* —

3. What is the repeated theme in James' teaching on the right attitude for the last days (*James 5:7-11*)?

*Hebrews 10:25* —

*Revelation 22:20* —

4. What is biblical *patience*? How do you define it? Can you back up your definition with Scripture?

10. How can we *strengthen* our hearts (*James 5:8*)?

*Ephesians 3:14-19* —

*2 Thessalonians 2:16-17* —

5. Why does James urge *patience*? What were his readers going through?

*1 Thessalonians 3:12-13* —

*1 Peter 5:10* —

6. How can we know when to patiently endure wrong treatment and when to confront the wrongdoer in love?

11. Why is it important to *strengthen* our hearts in light of the Lord's return (*James 5:9*)?

7. What enables the farmer to wait (*James 5:7*)?

12. What does James mean when he tells us *the Judge is standing right at the door* (*James 5:9*)?

8. In both *verse 7 & 8*, what is to be our motivation for being patient?

13. Why would *complaining* against someone cause you to be judged (*James 5:9*)?

9. What do the following verses teach about Jesus' return?

14. How can we instill in our daily focus the Lord's return? What practical impact should it have on our lives?

15. Is it wrong to labor for eternal rewards? Why or why not? Support your answer with Scripture.