

## 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Road Map  
Pastor Roger W. Huffman

James 5:1-11  
August 9, 2015

**Lord, give me patience and give it to me your way.**

*Lord, grant me patience and grant it to me NOW.*

- ♦ *Patience would be easy if I could get rid of all the idiots around me.*
  - We will have patience and peace when we get to heaven.
  - Not because our environment with change, but we'll be changed.
- ♦ Every believer needs to work on patience. Either you know:
  - it's my problem, but justify it as who you are, you can't change
  - you've grown patient using psychological tools
    - ♦ feeling proud of yourself, but guilt and fear lurk in the shadows
  - impatience is a challenge for you - you long to be released from it
  - the patience you have flows from God's daily work in you

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***Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming.*** James 5:7

- ❖ Compare and contrast: psychological vs. spiritual patience
  - ♦ Recognize impatience is bad
    - For *self*, your health, image, relationships, future
    - It's a **sin against God's** patience and love - sin's bondage/blindness
  - ♦ Admit your impatience and learn what triggers it.
    - Face fact. Look for triggers. *Self*-discovery.
    - **Use God's word** to understand my sinful reaction.
  - ♦ Develop techniques for disarming triggers and managing impatience:
    - *Self*-control: relaxation (breathing), slow down, think not react, refocus by active listening
      - ♦ Useful to calm body for clearer thinking.
    - Our goal - **repent** = change of mindset that:
      - ♦ puts off sinful nature's ways of seeing & thinking
      - ♦ puts on God's way of seeing & thinking, based on revealed reality
  - ♦ Difference: **Goal:** *self* vs. Jesus; **Tools:** *reason* vs. God's Word.

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- ❖ **Perseverance** - patience grows under trial - the *patience of Job*
  - ♦ **Faith** - active reliance on God's revealed facts:
    - God's promised future - *all works for my good* - sure hope
    - What it real, true, lasting vs. the lies of Satan and sinful nature
  - ♦ **Focus** - the new mindset of faith
    - See it from God's perspective or mindset
      - ♦ *have the same mindset as Christ Jesus ...humbled himself ...cross*
    - This life is **not** about pleasure and possessions.
    - Life is found in Jesus, his forgiveness, new life, fulness with God
  - ♦ **follow through**
    - Seeing the way life works, what is truly good, and how God works
    - I trust in his promises and live for his promises
      - ♦ Adam Manian's great-great-grandfather Kasper (7.22.2015 FIC)
      - ♦ *Christ lives. Muhammad is dead. I will never renounce my Savior.*
      - ♦ He knew Jesus, Priceless Treasure
    - Don't live for conveniences & pleasures that pass when Jesus comes
    - Patient perseverance in the faith - grows rich in Christ
    - Persevere clinging to all God's gospel promises.
      - ♦ In everyday choices, relationships, speech
      - ♦ In what you live for - living looking for the treasures of the eternal city that comes at the Resurrection.
      - ♦ Faith's values and perspective that will not disappoint

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