

## **James 5:7-12 – Example: Longsuffering *IN* Suffering Until The Second Coming of Christ**

### **Introduction: What is the Mystery of Christian Patience?**

1. Example of John Rogers, 1555
2. The Context is the Oppression of Wicked Landowners
3. The Command is to Be Patient in the midst of it
4. Patience filled with Joy (**James 1:2-3**)
5. How do we do this? How do we learn patience?
6. Our text gives 3 lessons on learning enduring patience

**Main Point: Christians learn to be longsuffering while in the midst of pain when they have their hopeful gaze on future glory, their established hearts on present holiness, and their steadfast souls soundly submitted to God and His Word.**

### **Faithfully Facing Future Glory: Look to the End! (vv 7-8)**

1. Training the Mind
  - a. The Lord Jesus is Coming again in Glory
  - b. Teach yourself to think on this when going through life's trials and testing from God
  - c. We are commanded to be longsuffering – patient
  - d. We will be liberated on the Day of Christ's return
  - e. Suffering has an Expiration Date!
2. Our Present pales in comparison to Our Future glory (**2 Corinthians 4:16-18**)
  - a. Present patience grows when we realize the glory of eternity
  - b. We will be changed and transformed – no suffering
3. The Example: The Farmer
  - a. He is patient for the crop, dependent on the Spring and Autumn Rains
  - b. We are patient in suffering, dependent on God

### **Hearts Held onto Holiness: Avoid Present Grumbling! (vv 8-9)**

1. Temptation in the Heart
  - a. In trials we can be impatient and complain, grumble and murmur against one another
  - b. We must establish our hearts to be holy in the trial
2. Christ is Near – He is the Judge
  - a. He disciplines those He loves
  - b. We actively wait for Christ – living for Him
  - c. We strengthen our gaze toward Him & His coming

- d. Jesus hears and sees all we say and do
  - i. We must watch what we say and do under trial
  - ii. Example: The grumbling Israelites in the Dessert
- e. Grumbling & Complaining is Evil
  - i. Ruins the Unity of the Church and Families
  - ii. Makes the Gospel look Foolish to the World
  - iii. It puts Christ to the test (**1 Corinthians 10:9-12**)
- f. Establish your hearts NOW to be prepared for impatience when you go through the trial

### **Steadfast Souls Soundly Submitted to Scripture (vv 10-12)**

1. The Recipients of James' Letter were familiar with their Bibles and Submitted to It!
2. The Old Testament Prophets
  - a. Endured Suffering doing the Lord's Will
  - b. Faithfulness to God INSURES Suffering!
3. Job
  - a. He was not patient (**Job 12:2, 16:2-4**)
  - b. He was steadfast – He persevered (**Job 13:15a**)
4. The faithful are not those who start and sprint a distance and then fizzle out – The faithful persevere to the end
5. The Mark of Grace on a Believer's life is endurance (Even when you do not feel like you are enduring!!!!)
6. The Warning and Admonition
  - a. Impatience can Ruin Integrity
  - b. Impatience with building an honest character can lead you to swear by things to be believed
  - c. James echoes Jesus (**Matthew 5:33-37**)