Patience is a Virtue to Live out

Patience of Hope Working Perfectly

*Hebrews 10:36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.*

*37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.*

Jas 5:7 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.

1. "Be Patient"

Patience means, ready to await God's time, God’s will, God’s way without doubting God's truth. God works His Will in His own way and in His own time.

Ps 37:7 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.

We are to "rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him" (Psalms 37:7), and not to fret ourselves because of the prosperity of the wicked and the apparent lack of God's work in the world. We must remember

Ps 37:9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

2Pe 1:5 ¶ And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

Patience is really a form of faith. It says, "God is working; I will leave things in His hands." It is in our patience that we possess our souls (Luke 21:19).

Bishop Wilberforce and Thomas Carlyle were once talking together about the deep things of life. Carlyle asked, "My lord, have you a creed?"

"Yes, replied the bishop, "and the older I grow the firmer that creed becomes under my feet. There is only one thing that staggers me."

"What is that?"

"The slow progress that creed seems to make in the world."

After a moment of silence, Carlyle ,made this wise remark: "Yes, but if you have a creed, you can afford to wait."

The last appeal in the Song of Solomon (8:14) is "Make haste, my beloved." And the last prayer in the Bible is "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." And to this the Saviour replies, "Surely I come quickly" (Revelation 22:20). Are we growing weary because we do not always see the harvest of our seed sowing? This glorious truth cries to us: "Be patient." Do temptaions strike at us, pain and disappointment worry us? Our text preaches o us: "Stablish your hearts." The King is coming, and only those who have such a hope can afford to wait.

MEDITATION PRAYER: "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him" (Psalms 62:5).

1. The Impatient Farmer

The world is filled with impatience, which creeps into the hearts of God's children. There is an amusing story of a Chinese farmer who, to make his truck garden produce faster, pulled the plants up a little higher out of the ground each morning. That, he thought, would put him ahead of the other gardeners who just waited for their plants to grow. One day he discovered that every plant had died. "Extremely foolish," we say; yet no more so than our complaints because our prayers are not answered immediately.

From the doubt manifested by Christian workers, it might seem as though the work of God would never be finished. It appears that "the times are out of joint," and some even go to the extreme of believing that God has "forsaken the earth"

Eze 8:12 Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth.

But God is patient with us, and we must learn to be patient with life. It is not always for us "to know the exact times or specific seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power" (Acts 1:7).

Temptation to impatience will grow as we draw nearer to the fulfillment of the promise of our Lord's return,

Jas 5:7 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.

The verse preceding today's text is: "For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise."

Obedience to the Word of God, then patience to make the promise sure in its fulfillment--that is what we need. To the patient heart the waiting is just a little while and then the Lord will come, and will not tarry. May it be said of all of us,

Re 3:10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

2Pe 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

MEDITATION PRAYER: "Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee" (Psalms 25:21).