

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. How many of you have ever prayed for patience?
2. I think we all have at one time or another.
3. Today we are looking at that 4th attitude that yielded believers get that's found in Galatians 5:22.
4. Please take God's Word and turn with me to Galatians 5:22.
5. As you know, we are in a series on "Bad and Good Habits" or "Bad and Good

Fruit.”

6. Having already considered what is “bad habits” or “bad fruit,” we are now looking at what are “good habits” or “good fruit.”
7. Galatians 5:22-25 (NASB) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.
8. Hudson Taylor, who “was a British Protestant Christian missionary to China and founder of the China Inland Mission (CIM, now OMF International),”<sup>1</sup> would tell

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<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hudson\\_Taylor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hudson_Taylor)

those who wanted to be missionaries to China that there were three indispensable requirements for a missionary: Patience, Patience, Patience.”<sup>2</sup>

9. Taylor truly demonstrated insight in dealing with people.
10. Just like the apostle Paul who said in Romans 12:19-21 (NASB) 19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. 20 “But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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<sup>2</sup> Green, Michael P., ed. Illustrations for Biblical Preaching

11. All of us need patience.
12. But none of us like how it is acquired.
13. James says in James 1:2-4 (NASB)  
Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.
14. Regardless of how we get it, we need to understand what it is.

## **LESSON**

### **I. What is Patience?**

- A. The word used here in Galatians 5:22 is makrothumia
- B. It means “long-suffering” or “forbearance”
- C. This word describes patience as “self-restraint”
- D. This is “the quality of a person who is able to avenge himself yet refrains from doing so.”<sup>3</sup>
- E. It then “has to do with tolerance and longsuffering”
- F. It “endures injuries inflicted by others.”<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> WSNTDICT

<sup>4</sup> John MacArthur, The MacArthur NT Commentary: Galatians

G. It is “the calm willingness to accept situations that are irritating and painful.”<sup>5</sup>

H. It’s “the broad shoulders on which it ‘bears all things’.”<sup>6</sup>

I. This kind of patience comes from God

## II. **God is the God of Patience**

A. He is identified as this in Romans 15:5 (NKJV) Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus.

B. This is what God has that leads sinners to repentance

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid., MacArthur

<sup>6</sup> Preacher’s Homiletical Commentary

Romans 2:4 (NASB) Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

C. This is what God showed to Paul when He saved him

1 Timothy 1:15-16 (NASB) It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all. 16 Yet for this reason I found mercy, so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.

D. This is what God demonstrated in the time of Noah

1 Peter 3:18-20 (NASB) For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; 19 in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, 20 who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

When you yield to the Spirit, God manifests His patience in you.



### **III. Jesus is the Supreme Example of Enduring Injuries Inflicted by Others**

A. Isaiah 53:7 (NASB) He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so He did not open His mouth.

B. As He was before Caiaphas, Matthew 27:63 says He “kept silent.”

1. When Caiaphas pressed Him to answer, He said in Matthew 26:63-64 (NASB) “I adjure You by the living God, that You tell us whether You are the Christ, the Son of God.” 64 Jesus said to him, “You have said it yourself; nevertheless I

tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

2. Caiaphas tore his clothes and said this was “blasphemy.”

3. He then asked everyone what they thought and they said “He deserves death.”

C. Matthew 26:67-68 (NASB) Then they spat in His face and beat Him with their fists; and others slapped Him, 68 and said, “Prophecy to us, You Christ; who is the one who hit You?”

D. Describing Jesus’ response, Peter said in 1 Peter 2:21-24 (NASB) For you have

been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, 22 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; 23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; 24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

- E. When describing patience in Galatians 5:22, John Gill says this is “a patient bearing and enduring of present evils with joyfulness, being strengthened by the Spirit with all might, according to his glorious power; being slow to anger,

ready to forgive injuries, put up with affronts, and bear with, and forbear one another: and which is usually accompanied with gentleness, humanity, affability, courteousness, shown both in words, gestures, and actions; in imitation of the gentleness of Christ, and agreeably to that wisdom, that heavenly doctrine of the Gospel, which, among other things, is said to be gentle, and easy to be entreated.”

Hebrews 12:2-3 (NASB) who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Again I remind you that when you “walk by the Spirit” or “yield” to the Spirit, you get this as well as the others.

When this “fruit” is manifested, it reveals that God is leading you, producing this in your life.

This kind of patience is “toward people.”<sup>7</sup>

It is a “long-enduring temper.”<sup>8</sup>

This is the “of emotional calm in the face of provocation or misfortune and without complaint or irritation.”<sup>9</sup>

## **IV. Believers Are Commanded to Be Patient**

### **A. We are to “put on” Patience**

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<sup>7</sup> LEH LXX Lexicon

<sup>8</sup> CDWGTHB

<sup>9</sup> LOUW-NIDA

Colossians 3:12-13 (NASB) So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

B. Patience is to accompany the worthy walk in Ephesians 4:1-2 (see Col.1:9-12)

C. Preachers are to preach the Word and “exhort” with great patience

2 Timothy 4:2 (NASB) preach the word; be ready in season and out of season;

reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

## **CONCLUSION**

1. Do you have “self-restraint before proceeding to action”?<sup>10</sup>
2. Do you have “tolerance” when it comes to the “injuries inflicted by others” on you?
3. Do you have a “calm willingness to accept situations that are irritating and painful”?<sup>11</sup>
4. Do you practice the example of Christ?
5. The answer is “NO” if you’re not yielding to the Spirit.

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<sup>10</sup> Ibid., WSNTDICT

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., MacArthur

6. Galatians 5:16 (NASB) But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.
7. Are you a Christian?
8. I don't mean a Christian as the world defines it.
9. Are you a follower of Jesus Christ who lives everyday denying yourself, taking up your cross?
10. If not, you can become one today by repenting and surrendering your life to Jesus Christ right now.
11. Let's pray.