



Patience and Perseverance

Getting to Heaven

It is no secret that getting to heaven is not easy.

Matthew 7:13-14

What makes it difficult? Obstacles, both external and internal.

We deal with different obstacles in different ways.

But ALL of them require patience and perseverance.

Patience and Perseverance



Patience and Perseverance

Getting to Heaven

Patience and Perseverance - Defined

- **Patience** - 1. bearing pains or trials calmly and without complaint; 2. Forbearance under provocation or strain; 3. Not hasty or impetuous; 4. Steadfast despite opposition; 5. Able or willing to bear

(Webster Dictionary)

Patience and Perseverance - Defined

- **Perseverance** - to persist in a state, enterprise, or undertaking in spite of counterinfluences, opposition, or discouragement
(Webster Dictionary)

Patience and Perseverance - Defined

- **Patience and perseverance -**
Simply stated - patience is being willing to calmly wait even if faced with challenges, without complaint; perseverance is patience with a determination to not give up.
- BOTH are associated with longsuffering.

Patience and Perseverance - Defined

- **Biblically -**
ὑπομονή, (hypomonē)
 - Found 32x in NT (NKJV)
 - Translated patience 20x (of 23)
 - Translated perseverance 9x (of 10)
 - Translated endurance 3x

Patience and Perseverance - Defined

- **Biblically -**
ὑπομονή, (hypomonē)
“the capacity to hold out or bear up
in the face of difficulty.
Patience, fortitude, endurance,
steadfastness, perseverance”
(BDAG)

Patience and Perseverance - Defined

- **Biblically -**
ὑπομονή, (hypomonē)
“a remaining under, a bearing-up
under; hence, patient endurance,
holding out, enduring
(Bullinger, Critical Lexicon and
Concordance of the Greek and English
New Testament)
Typically associated with steadfast
endurance, not giving up or acting
hastily - especially in trying
circumstances

Patience and Perseverance - Defined

- **Biblically -**

There is not much difference between the words in Greek.

But as we use them, we see slight difference.

Patience is the attitude,
perseverance is the action (result).

Patience and Perseverance - Defined

- From MrMotivate.com -
Patience is the capacity to manage or handle waiting, delay, or tardiness without becoming restless or agitated. Meanwhile, perseverance is defined as constant effort and determination through a challenge or difficulty. Patience gives us strength and maturity, while perseverance helps us to accomplish tasks and reach goals.

We need patience

- It teaches us kindness and tolerance toward differences (not necessarily acceptance as is expected in our society).
It ought to be a defining quality (our disposition). Cf. Galatians 5:22-23 – longsuffering. NOTE: *“Against such there is no law”*
- Perseverance keeps us from giving up – cf. Galatians 6:9

When we lack patience

- We live in a society where patience is woefully lacking.
We demand instant gratification – the result: Shortened attention spans and short-fused tempers
Thus, less appreciation of the virtue of patience/perseverance

When we lack patience

- Impatience can cause us to rush into something, failure to reach full potential or leave something halfway undone or even neglected
- Sinful attitudes – anger, careless words, bitterness, sullen
- Sinful actions - harsh answers, reactions that are soon regretted
- Strain relationships if not controlled
- Ultimately endanger one's soul

The Bible and patience

- **1 Timothy 6:11** – Timothy told to pursue patience
- **Colossians 1:10-11** – walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him...for all patience and longsuffering
- **Colossians 3:12-13** – put on tender mercies, kindness... longsuffering,...

The Bible and patience

- **James 5:7-8, 11** – be patient until the coming of the Lord... You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand... Indeed, we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job...

The Bible and patience

- **1 Corinthians 13:4** – Love suffers long and is kind...
- **Hebrews 10:36, 12:1** – You have need of endurance...run with endurance (“bookends” to the “heroes of faith”)
- **Ephesians 6:17-18** – as we don the “armor of God” we pray with perseverance

Help me to persevere

God MUST be your priority

- **Matthew 6:33**, seek FIRST the kingdom of God
- Colossians 3:1-2** – set your mind on things above
- IF God's will is anything less than first place, you may not persevere

Help me to persevere

Make up your mind

- You need a mindset that will help you endure

1 Peter 2:21-23 – consider the example of Jesus. Facing crucifixion, He “committed Himself to Him who judges righteously”

- Without a firm resolve, you may not persevere.

- Resolve that you will NEVER give up!

Help me to persevere

We need self-control/discipline

- Absolutely crucial. Virtually every sin, failure and success is the result of self-control OR the lack thereof.

2 Peter 1:5-7 – we need it as we build on our faith that is sure and will keep us from stumbling.

Help me to persevere

Face your struggles and troubles

- You cannot sweep your problems “under the carpet” and hope they go away
 - invariably they will worsen if not dealt with. The only question is **WHEN** will you deal with them?

Help me to persevere

Face your struggles and troubles

- As you face your struggles, they can make you stronger

Romans 5:3-4, James 1:2-4

Hebrews 6:11-12 – *...show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises*

Help me to persevere

Find godly brethren

- We NEED the local church.
The church is part of God's eternal plan - **Ephesians 3:10-11**
That includes the local church. Thus we MUST respect it as His church and His pattern in all we do and are.

Help me to persevere

Find godly brethren

- IF you want help in persevering, find a church that honors God and His will in everything. They strive for fellowship with Him (**cf. 1 John 1:3-7**) and will NOT compromise His word in practice, teaching or tolerance of sin.

Help me to persevere

Find godly brethren

- Godly brethren will help you deal with and overcome your struggles. They will help you endure.

1 Thessalonians 5:14

We need each other!

Help me to persevere

Keep your eye on the goal

- You have to know why you are doing what you do.
- Our ultimate goal is to get to heaven.
Hebrews 12:1-2, looking unto Jesus who is at the finish line.
2 Timothy 2:6 – we endure hardships as a farmer anticipating his crops (**cf. James 5:7**)

Help me to persevere

Keep your eye on the goal

- There is ALWAYS a reward with patience
- It may be as simple as NOT saying or doing something you will regret
If you persevere, you will eventually reach your goal – **Galatians 6:9**
- Most worthwhile achievements (and resolutions) take time to accomplish. Physical and spiritual. Keep at it!

Help me to persevere

Keep your eye on the goal

- Ultimately, perseverance is what will get you to heaven!

Philippians 3:12-14 – Paul did not quit. He pressed on so that he could reach his goal.

He kept his eye on Jesus, and so should we (**cf. Hebrews 12:2**)

Help me to persevere

Be patient!

- IF you are to develop patience, you have to be patient!
It is a quality that does not come overnight. Keep working at it and your perseverance/patience will become greater.

Romans 2:7, God will
“render to each one according to His deeds, eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor and immortality.”

Luke 21:19, Jesus told His
disciples as they faced troubles
and persecutions,
*“By your patience possess your
souls”*



Are you patiently
persevering?



Let us pray!