

Elder Bobby Willis



Godly Patience

Patience! Not everyone has a level of patience to the same degree. Preachers preach on it, writers write about it, and those of us who need more of it, think about it from time to time. Patience is not merely dealing with the trials and hardships we face in life out of necessity, but is the overcoming of any thing negative.

God made a promise to Abraham **“Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee”** (Hebrews 6:14). The Apostle Paul then relates what happened when Abraham **“patiently endured.”** Verse 15 says, **“he obtained the promise.”** This promise was NOT Eternal Life! Why? Because then eternal life would have been by Abraham’s work of being patient and we know that, **“by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is a gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast”** (Ephesians 2:8-9).

That which was promised unto Abraham was the richness of God’s blessings, God’s watch-care over them, and that the Lord would bless them to multiply and be a mighty people among many nations.

I stated earlier that patience is more than dealing with adversity out of necessity, and that is true. However, notice what Paul says in II Corinthians 6:4-5, **“But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings;...”** Having Godly patience brings much comfort to our souls as we face all of the difficulties of life.

What is amazing about patience is it’s ability to aid in the possessing of our souls. Notice in Luke 21:19 where it says, **“In your patience possess ye your souls.”** In other words, if you are a person who lacks patience, then it would stand to reason the difficulty you would have in having your soul in line with pleasing God. To possess your own soul is to recognize your inability to function properly without the help of God and **“...through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body...”** (Romans 8:13).

Now, patience in our daily routines includes but is not limited to: Our jobs, in our church, our family, school, dealing with neighbors, while at the grocery store, and while driving midst those who's minds and thoughts are somewhere else other than on the perils of the highway. Without exercising a great deal of patience, our souls become like the big word - discombobulated. Without patience; we doubt, we worry, we stress out, and we fail to wait upon the Lord for our guidance. The end result is we do not possess our souls as we should.

May we all pray for the Lord's help in possessing our souls in the proper manner which will bring Praise, Honor and Glory to His great name and may we wait patiently for His coming. **"Think About It!"**