

Reflection Questions: What hardships are tempting me to give up?
What faith response is God asking me to give in light of these difficulties? Am I enduring patiently, joyfully, & uncomplainingly?

How can I pray for others and our church this week?

Quotes to Ponder

*God's blessing does not come to people who do great things,
but to people who endure.*

John MacArthur

Job's is no groveling, passive, unquestioning submission; Job struggled and questioned and sometimes even defied, but the flame of faith was never extinguished in his heart.

William Barclay

*You may learn your theology in the sunshine,
But you discover your theology at midnight.*

Ray Pritchard

If a man were to attack me with a knife I would resist him with all my strength, and count it a tragedy if he succeeded. Yet if a surgeon comes to me with a knife, I welcome both him and the knife; let him cut me open, even wider than the knife-attacker, because I know his purpose is good and necessary.

Charles Spurgeon

Satan labors to take advantage of us in affliction, by making us either faint or murmur; he blows the coals of passion and discontent, and then warms himself at the fire.

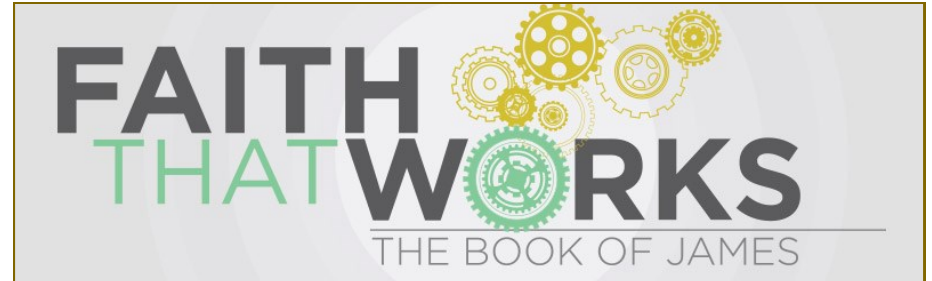
Thomas Watson

No wise person would seek to be exempt from the healthy discipline of trouble.... When our regular comforts do not suffice, we draw near to Him. It is hard to learn to swim on dry land, but when we are in the water you have to swim. Our troubles are waters in which we are obliged to swim toward God.

R. Kent Hughes

Impatience is a strong sense of annoyance at the unintentional faults and failures of others... often expressed verbally... The actual cause of impatience lies within our own hearts, in our own attitude of insisting that others around us conform to our expectations.

Jerry Bridges.



#24 Patiently Enduring (5:1-11)

*Sermon
Notes*

September 1, 2019

1. What in the text/sermon impacted you most? Encouraged you?
Convicted you? Challenged you? Confused you?

2. Explain how the Bible is sufficient to help us endure terrible trials.

3. Is it wrong to shed tears or cry out to God for answers when we suffer?
Is there a right and a wrong way to do this? Explain.

4. How are the prophets examples of *suffering and patience* (*James 5:10*)?

5. Read *Jeremiah 18:18-23; 20:1-18; 26:1-15; 37:11-16; and 38:1-6*. How is
Jeremiah an example of *suffering and patience*? How did he endure?

6. What do the following verses tell us about the prophets?

Matthew 5:12 —

Romans 11:3 —

Matthew 21:35-36 —

1 Thessalonians 2:15 —

Matthew 22:6 —

Hebrews 11:32-38 —

Luke 13:33 —

Revelation 16:6 —

Acts 7:51-52 —

Revelation 18:24 —

7. Were the prophets suffering because they'd done something wrong?
Explain.

8. Why are those who endure *blessed* (*James 5:11*)?

9. Why is it hard to endure and be patient in the midst of suffering? Why
do you think James used Job as an example (*James 5:11*)?

10. Read *Job 19-22*. What kinds of losses did Job experience? What kinds
of questions or thoughts do these verses raise for you?

11. Why are we so quick to question God when we suffer?

12. What *outcome, end, or purpose* does God have for His children
through enduring difficult times (*James 5:11*)?

13. Why doesn't God protect those who are serving Him from trials and
persecution?

14. Some argue that God does not cause or control our trials. Why is this
devastating to faith and hope?

What Scriptures clearly say God causes or controls our trials?

15. How does James describe Jesus at the end of *James 5:11*? What does
this mean?