



Just Grow Up!

James - A Manual for Maturity

Patience in the Midst of Life's Storms

September 2 & 3, 2023

James 5:7-12 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen. You, too, must be patient. Take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near. Don't grumble about each other, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. For look—the Judge is standing at the door! For examples of patience in suffering, dear brothers and sisters, look at the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. We give great honor to those who endure under suffering. For instance, you know about Job, a man of great endurance. You can see how the Lord was kind to him at the end, for the Lord is full of tenderness and mercy. But most of all, my brothers and sisters, never take an oath, by heaven or earth or anything else. Just say a simple yes or no, so that you will not sin and be condemned.

I Should Develop Patience in Life's Storms Because:

- Life's storms are uncontrollable.

James 5:7 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen.

“God often sends the storm to show that He is our only shelter.” - Rick Long

- Life's storms are often unchangeable.

James 5:10 (TPT)

My brothers and sisters, take the prophets as your mentors. They have prophesied in the name of the Lord and it brought them great sufferings, yet they patiently endured.

Job 37:13, 15-18 (GW)

Whether for discipline, or for the good of his earth, or out of mercy, he makes the storm appear ... Do you know how God controls them and makes the lightning flash from his clouds? Do you know how the clouds drift (these are the miracles of the one who knows everything), you whose clothes are hot and sweaty, when the earth is calm under a south wind? Can you stretch out the skies with him and make them as firm as a mirror made of metal?

“Life isn’t about waiting for the storm to pass. It’s about learning to dance in the rain!” - Unknown

- **Life’s storms are often unpredictable.**

James 5:11a (TPT)

We honor them as heroes because they remain faithful even while enduring great sufferings.

Proverbs 1:27-29 (TPT)

When the storm clouds of terror gather over your head, when dread and distress consume you and your catastrophe comes like a hurricane... I won’t answer you because you have turned your nose up to me.

“If you have little trouble, you will have little faith but if you have great faith, you must expect to have great trouble.”

- Charles Spurgeon

Why do storms come into our lives?

- **We live on a broken planet.**
- **We have made a series of bad choices.**
- **We are surrounded by sinful people.**
- **We are the devil’s target.**

I Only Develop Patience in the Storm When I:

1

Wait expectantly for God’s divine intervention.

James 5:8 (TPT)

So you also, keep your hopes high and be patient, for the presence of the Lord is drawing closer.

Psalm 130:5 (TPT)

This is why I wait upon you, expecting your breakthrough, for your word brings me hope.

Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)

... But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2

Wait excitedly for God's rescue and relief.

James 5:11 (MSG)

What a gift life is to those who stay the course! You've heard, of course, of Job's staying power, and you know how God brought it all together for him at the end. That's because God cares, cares right down to the last detail.

Psalm 68:20 (TPT)

Our God is a mighty God who saves us over and over! For the Lord, Yahweh, rescues us from the ways of death many times.

James 5:12 (MSG)

And since you know that he cares, let your language show it. Don't add words like "I swear to God" to your own words. Don't show your impatience by concocting oaths to hurry up God. Just say yes or no. Just say what is true. That way, your language can't be used against you.

Lamentations 3:26 (NIV)

...it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

3

Wait confidently for God to work it all out for good.

James 5:11b (NIV)

...and those who mourn are lifted to safety.

Job 42:10-12 (NLT)

When Job prayed for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes. In fact, the Lord gave him twice as much as before! Then all his brothers, sisters, and former friends came and feasted with him in his home. And they consoled him and comforted him because of all the trials the Lord had brought against him. And each of them brought him a gift of money and a gold ring. So the Lord blessed Job in the second half of his life even more than in the beginning. For now he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 teams of oxen, and 1,000 female donkeys.

What God did for Job, He will do for me.

- God will rekindle my faith as He did Job's.
- God will rebuke my critics as He did Job's.
- God will restore my needed possessions.

Romans 8:28-29 (NLT)

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 (NLT)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.

MEMORY VERSE**James 5:8 (NLT)**

You, too, must be patient. Take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near.



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