

LOVE
Without Hypocrisy
 (in the book of Romans)

16 – Patient in Tribulation (3)
 > Patience <

"If you must suffer ..."

Be ... patient in affliction ...
Romans 12:12 (NIV)

... you must be patient!

★ **"If you must suffer ..."** ★

Be ... patient in affliction ...
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... you must be patient!

1
A

**If you must suffer:
 Make sure it's for a good reason!**

MAKE SURE IT'S NOT FOR SIN!

- If you suffer, you shouldn't suffer for being a murderer, thief, criminal, or troublemaker.
1 Peter 4:15 (GW)
- For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience?
1 Peter 2:20a (NASB)

1
B

**If you must suffer:
 Make sure it's for a good reason!**

IT'S OK TO SUFFER FOR JESUS!

- If you suffer for being a Christian, don't feel ashamed, but praise God for being called that name.
1 Peter 4:16 (GW)
- But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God.
1 Peter 2:20b (NASB)

2
A

**If you must suffer:
 Watch what you say!**

DON'T GRUMBLE AGAINST GOD!
Don't follow Israel's example!

- And don't grumble as some of them did, for that is why God sent his angel of death to destroy them.
- All these events happened to them as examples for us. They were written down to warn us ...
1 Cor. 10:10-11a (NLT)

2
B

If you must suffer:
Watch what you say!

DON'T VERBALLY LASH OUT AGAINST PEOPLE!

Do follow Jesus' example!

When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

1 Peter 2:23 (NIV)

3

If you must suffer:
Remember the rest of our theme verse!

Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer.

Romans 12:12 (NIV)

Our PATIENCE is:

- ✓ **Strengthened by PRAYER.**
 - Without it, patience would fail.
- ✓ **Encouraged by HOPE.**
 - Without it, patience would be dismal.

"If you must suffer ..."

Be ... patient in affliction ...


Romans 12:12 (NIV)

★ ... you must be patient! ★

You may have heard people excuse their impatience ...

Only DOCTORS have patience!

NO, doctors have "patients"!
We're all supposed to have "patience"!



So let's get started!

There are 2 New Testament Greek words that are often translated as "patience."

#1. Patience that involves self-restraint.

Love is patient ...

1 Corinthians 13:4a (WEB)

But the fruit of the Spirit is ... patience, ...

Galatians 5:22 (WEB)

This is NOT the word found in Romans 12:12 (though it's also important).


[#1. Patience that involves self-restraint.]

- This means you're not going to retaliate or explode in anger.

NOT THIS! →

I DON'T GET ANGRY... I GET EVEN!

THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE A SHEEP!



#2. Patience that involves acceptance of what happens.

- Also translated as endurance or perseverance.


Love ... endures all things.
1 Corinthians 13:7b (WEB)

This is the word found in Romans 12:12.

Be ... patient in affliction ...
Romans 12:12 (NIV)

[#2. Patience that involves acceptance of what happens.]

- This means you won't be downcast or faint-hearted, and you won't give-up.

NOT THIS! → 

PATIENT ENDURANCE DURING TRIALS

FACT #1:
This patience* must be part of our lives.

Pursue a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness.
1 Tim. 6:11b (NLT)

... make every effort to add to your faith ... perseverance ...
2 Peter 1:5-6 (NET)

* (REMINDER: This type of patience is also translated: perseverance or endurance.)

PATIENT ENDURANCE DURING TRIALS

FACT #2:
God makes it possible; it's ours in Jesus.

... God, who gives this patience and encouragement, ...
Romans 15:5a (NLT)

In Jesus we are partners in suffering and in the Kingdom and in patient endurance.
Revelation 1:9b (NLT)

PATIENT ENDURANCE DURING TRIALS

FACT #3:
It's a part of love; and this love will be present if the Holy Spirit is present!

[Love] ... endures all things.
1 Cor. 13:7a (WEB)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, ...
Galatians 5:22a (WEB)

What are the results of this patience?

NOT THIS!!

The WORLD may want to smash us...
 But GOD offers us something better!



1 **Results?** **1**

We are blessed by God.

As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered.

You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

James 5:11 (NIV)

2 **Results?** **2**

It helps us grow up.

You know that such testing of your faith produces endurance.

Endure until your testing is over. Then you will be mature and complete, and you won't need anything.

James 1:3-4 (GW)

3 **Results?** **3**

We obtain eternal life.

Everyone will hate you because you are committed to me.

But the person who patiently endures to the end will be saved.

Matthew 10:22 (GW)

4 **Results?** **4**

There are more ...

The examples we gave are enough to prove:

PATIENT ENDURANCE IS NOT ONLY IMPORTANT ... AND NECESSARY ...

↓

IT'S VALUABLE!

Your Mission...

I may have "PATIENTS," but...

WE ALL NEED PATIENCE!

Be ... patient in affliction ...

Romans 12:12b (NIV)

So, let's encourage each other to have it!



Credits (1)

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Your Mission...

"Be ... patient in affliction ..."

Romans 12:12b

AFFLICTION - tribulation, suffering, hardship, trouble, etc.

PATIENCE - perseverance, endurance, steadfastness, etc.

WE NEED PATIENT ENDURANCE!

Why is it necessary?

- *Spiritual growth and maturity:* It produces godly character (Romans 5:3-4); it helps us to become spiritually mature (James 1:3-4); it's one of the necessary ingredients for a fruitful life (Luke 8:15); it's one of the godly character traits we must add to our faith (2 Peter 1:6).
- *It's associated with our hope for the future:* It's one of the things needed to make our hope grow (Romans 5:3-4; 15:4); it enables us to wait until that hope arrives (Romans 8:24-25).
- *It enables us to receive what God has promised:* Salvation (Hebrews 10:36 - compare to v. 39); eternal life (Romans 2:7); ruling with Christ (2 Timothy 2:12).

In some of these verses...

Note the relationship between hope and patience!

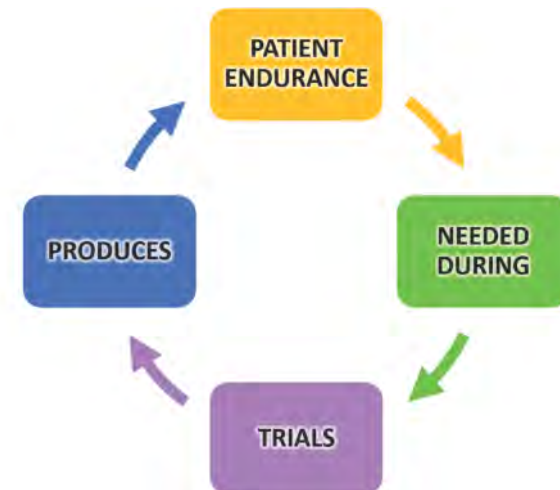


How does it grow?

- *By trials:* Trials "exercise" it (Romans 5:3; James 1:3-4).
- *By our efforts:* As we pursue it (1 Timothy 6:11); as we fulfil our obligation to add various godly character qualities to our faith (2 Peter 1:6; an ongoing activity - see v. 8).
- *By encouragement:* From others who have also endured trials (2 Corinthians 1:3-7); also, as we look forward to our hope, i.e., what God has in store for us (1 Thessalonians 1:3).

In some of these verses...

Note the relationship between trials and patience!



Examples we can learn from.

- *The ultimate example:* Jesus (Hebrews 12:2-3).
- *Godly people from the past:* Job (James 5:11); John (Revelation 1:9); Paul (2 Timothy 3:10); the church at Thessalonica (2 Thessalonians 1:4); a whole "cloud of witnesses" - people who have gone before us (Hebrews 12:1).