



JAMES

— TRANSFORMED BY FAITH →

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

BE PATIENT: GOD IS AT WORK

— JAMES 5:7-11 —
— TRANSFORMED BY FAITH —

Followers of Jesus can grow in patience as we believe
God is working for His glory and our good.

DEFINITIONS: PATIENT

- **Dictionary** definition: *The capacity to accept or tolerate delay, trouble, or suffering without getting angry or upset.*
- My working definition: *being mindful of time without losing your mind*

GOD GIVES GROWTH - V. 7-9

- A farmer *can't* make his crop grow, he must be patient
- Kids, marriages, missional communities, and churches—they *all* require patience!
- Temptations: lose your temper, be harsh with your spouse, discouragement with discipleship relationships = grumble!
- Remember: God is at work, and He gives growth

GOD'S PURPOSES ARE GOOD - V. 10-11

- Times are tough...be patient, *therefore*...wha?!?
- Remember: the prophets and Job
- Faithfulness to God is hard, but God's purposes are good
- Temptations: "What is God doing? Why is *this* happening to *me*?"
- Remember: Nothing you suffer is without purpose

GOD'S PURPOSES ARE GOOD - V. 10-11

- “Times are tough so, Be patient!” ...wha?!?
- Remember the prophets, remember Job
- Faithfulness to God is hard, but God's purposes are good
- Temptations: “What is God doing? Why is *this* happening to *me*?”
- Remember: No suffering is without purpose

GOD IS COMPASSIONATE AND MERCIFUL - V. 11B

- We need patience, but all of life's circumstances seems to make us more *impatient!*
- God has an abundantly tender heart *for you*
- Underlying all of God's activity is His mercy
- This life is not the end

FOR REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

- Where do I need to repent of being impatient—expecting growth that only God gives?
- Where do I need to repent of asking “why, God?” and instead see His purposes as good?
- How can I grow in believing that God is compassionate and merciful?
- Am I still trusting in myself? What is holding me back from believing in Jesus?



JAMES

— TRANSFORMED BY FAITH →