

I. Patience is strengthened by anticipating the Lord’s return

A. We can trust in the sure return of our Lord

“So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of the people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.” (Hebrews 9:28)

B. We can stand firm until he comes

“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves full to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” (I Corinthians 15:58)

II. Patience is developed as we recognize God’s judgment

“See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones to judge everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done.” (Jude 14b-15)

A. We must not turn on each other in difficult times

III. Patience is produced as we follow the example of the prophets

A. They were patient in times of suffering

B. They faithfully spoke for God

IV. Patience is formed as we understand God’s blessing

A. There is blessing promised if we persevere

“I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry.” (Psalm 40:1)

V. Patience is expanded as we trust in God’s purpose

A. Job persevered and received God’s blessing

“You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what is promised.” (Hebrews 10:36)

VI. Patience is encouraged as we consider the Lord’s character

A. The Lord is full of compassion

“The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.” (Exodus 34:6)

B. The Lord is full of mercy

“Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.” (Micah 7:18)

VII. Patience is demonstrated through truthful communication

A. We should not back up our word with an oath

“Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes’ and your ‘No’ by ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.” (Matthew 5:37)

B. Our word should always be true