

Show me your faith

James 2:18

10. Wait patiently, people

James 5:7-11

⁷ Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. ⁸ You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. ⁹ Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! ¹⁰ Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ 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.

1. The Lord is coming – be prepared!

▲ Christ's coming is promised

⁷ Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming.

Option 1: Our departure at the Coming Rapture

Acts 1:11 This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.

John 14:3 If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

Titus 2:13 We wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

1 Corinthians 15:51 We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 The Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage each other with these words.

Option 2: Our departure at the Christian's Death

Philippians 1:23 I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

2 Corinthians 5:8 We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

▲ Christ's coming will be personal

⁸ You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

2. The Lord is coming – be patient!

▲ Note the exhortation on patience

⁷ Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming.

▲ Note the explanation of patience

⁸ You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. ⁹ Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! ¹⁰ Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering,

- ▶ *Patience involves standing strong*
- ▶ *Patience involves pressing past*
- ▶ *Patience involves remaining right*
- ▶ *Patience involves looking long*

▲ Note the examples of patience

⁷ See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains.

¹⁰ Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

¹¹ You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

- ▶ *Consider the farmer and his favorable forecast*
- ▶ *Consider the prophets and their passionate preaching*
- ▶ *Consider Job and his junky journey*

▲ Note the expected end of patience

¹¹ As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered.

¹¹ The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

⁸ You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

- ▶ *Help is available with Jesus*
- ▶ *Hope is ahead with Jesus*

Action Assignments

1. Permeate yourself with the promises of God!
2. Pray for provision and power from God for persevering!
3. Press on with patience in the peace of God!