

Week 3 - Faith

Objective:

. God will solve our problems. Fulfill our needs. Have faith in Him, and wait PATIENTLY for His solutions.

Introduction:

. Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Hebrews 11: 1).

. My brothers, count it all joy when you fall in various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. (James 1:2-3).

. But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue to virtue, knowledge to knowledge, self-control to self-control, perseverance to perseverance (1 Peter 1:5-6).

. So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. And he took for himself a post shed with which to scrap himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes. Then his wife said to him, 'Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die.' But he said to her, 'you speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?' In all this Job did not sin with his lips. (Job 2:7-10).

. Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord - that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful. (James 5:11)

. But we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulations produce perseverance. (Romans 5:3).

. Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him. Do not fret because of him who prospers in His way. Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. Wait on the Lord and keep His way. And He shall exalt you to inherit the land. When the wicked are cut off, you shall see it. (Psalm 37:7,34).

Lesson Outline:

. What is the definition of faith? What is the relation between faith and patience?
. Can you give some examples from the Bible, of people that have endured for a long time with faith and patience?

a) Joseph: hatred; false accusation from employer; separation from his family.

b) Job: financial ruin; death in family; sickness; problems with wife and friends.

. Can you relate your life to these problems?

. Why do you think God waits, sometimes it seems for us too long, before He solves our problems?

a) To test our faith ...

b) Our problems which, if we endure patiently, and He eventually solves, is glorifying to Him

c) This, in turn, earns us glory in His kingdom ...

d) He knows the right time that is best for solving our problems.

Applications:

. Give examples from our lives for people who endured problems for a long time and prevailed by their faith that gave them perseverance.

Conclusion:

Faith and patience are always rewarded with victory on earth or eternally because He said,

.behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his works. (Revelation 22:12).