

The Fruit of the Spirit: Patience

Various texts

What is Patience?

- ***Makrothumia***: Long-suffering
 - To endure hardship
 - For a long period of time
 - That is very intense in its magnitude
 - Both

A God of Patience

- God is repeatedly described as patient (2 Pet. 3:9, 15a)
 - Enduring our sinful rebellion to allow us opportunity to repent and turn to Him (see also Rom. 2:4; 9:22)
- God restrains His hand of judgment to work something greater
 - Individually: Like with Paul (1 Tim. 1:16)
 - Corporately: Like Israel & the Amorites (Gen. 15:16)
 - Temporally: Wanting as many people to turn to Him before Christ returns

Full of Patience

- For us, patience is the product of the Spirit working in our lives
- It is the outpouring of God's love through us (1 Cor. 13:4a; Eph. 4:2)
- And something we must choose (1 Thess. 5:14; Col. 3:12)
 - Like love, joy, and peace
- It is often tied to waiting for God to move (Ps. 40:1)
 - Especially concerning Christ's return (Jas 5:7-8)
- And Him providing strength (Isa. 40:31)

So What?

- Are we letting the Spirit produce patience in us?
 - Learning to wait on God
 - Learning to rest in Him

Meditation Verse: Psalm 27:14