



THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD
Living Faith Chapel, Calgary

Bible Study

Tuesday, October 15, 2013

Theme: Be steadfast in patience

One of the characters of God is patience. *Roman 2: 4 ... or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?*

Surely, The Lord is steadfast in patience and slow to anger. His steadfast patience allows people to discover their wrong doings and return back to Him. The divine purpose of this is to allow Him to win more people into the Eternal Kingdom instead of sending them into hell fire.

For the sake of clarity, being steadfast in patience is synonymous with forbearance, long suffering or endurance.

By nature, Believers experience trials, tribulations, sufferings, disappointments, failures , setbacks etc in physical or spiritual life. While others resort into different worldly methods of quick-fix, they are to remain strong and patient while waiting for divine intervention. This is because they need supernatural guidance in order to keep within the ways of the Lord and follow the instructions of the Master.

A call for patience

Therefore, be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth , waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. James 5:7-8

The significance of patience

The heaven operates through patience in order to fulfill or establish certain divine promises. Jesus told the Apostles to wait patiently for the coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8). David in Ps 40:1 waited patiently for the Lord. See also Hab 2:3 In all these instances, the people received what they were waiting for after exercising patience.

... ..*Though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come. It will not tarry.*

Does patience equal weakness or slackness? (2Pet 3:9, 1 Thes 5:14)

No. Patience is an internal power engine that is built on the rock of trust and confidence in Christ. In true sense this is the power house that drives the water of love, unity and Godly fellowship among brethren. Unless one is solidly connected to the Rock of life, patience will definitely be steadily slow!

Is there suffering in patience? (Galatian 5:22)

Undoubtedly patience may be attended by physical discomfort or pain or feeling of loss of self. This is usually physical, temporary and external (2 Cor 4:16 -18). However, we know that patience is the lens through which we keep our focus on our glorious future with Christ. The power in patience diminishes the temporary pain which we suffer in the flesh.

The assurance of being steadfast in patience

Of course, there is great hope in being steadfastly patient with Christ.

1. Christ is our Hope
2. Rapture is certain if we are patient in Him and be prepared for Him.
3. Holy Spirit is a Guarantee (2 Cor 5: 5; Acts 1:8)
4. We will glorify with Him (Rom 8:17)
5. Crown of life (James 1:12)

On earth, there will be:

6. peace, joy, unity, love, prosperity etc
- 7 Fellowship of spirit
- 8 Wisdom (prov 14:29)
- 9 Soul winning (2Tim 2:10)

Exhortations on being steadfast in patience during trials

- 1 You need to trust the Lord and be strong in the power of His might

- 2 You need to talk to God in the place of prayers (Luke 18: 1-8)
- 3 You need to be confident of the God that you serve (Job 13: 2-3)

What you know, I also know; I am not inferior to you. But I would speak to the Almighty, And I desire to reason with God

- 4 Praise God in tribulations, uncertainties, sufferings etc
- 5 Refuse the spirit of fear & worries
- 6 Focus on the Rock of Christ
- 7 Count it all joy (attitude)
- 8 Claim the promises of God
- 9 Hold to the power and faithfulness of God (Num 23:19)
- 10 Be encouraged by the power in the words of God and let your heart be illuminated by the Light of Christ
- 11 Be assured you are not alone (Heb 12:22; 2 King 6:16)

Beware of false witnesses as you maintain steadfastness with the Lord

Job's case:

- 1) Avoid destiny parasites (Job's friends - Eliphaz, Bildad, Zophar (Job 4 -20).

Conclusion: Without being steadfast in patience, our hope in Christ may not endure and may be cut short. Ask the Lord tonight to help you to be steadfast in patience.