

BELIEVE
"Be Like Jesus"
Patience

INTRODUCTION:

1. "Do you really believe that what you believe is really real?"
2. **Do we have a moral Biblical obligation to impact our culture?**
 - a) Is it morally wrong to kill the unborn?
 - b) Is it morally wrong for a nation to be 19 trillion dollars in debt?
 - c) Is it morally wrong for people to be enslaved by welfare?
 - d) Is the sexual revolution wrong?
 - e) Is it morally wrong for a believer to not share his faith with an unbeliever?
3. We must be very careful not to deify America.
 - a) However: **Proverbs 14:34**
4. We must be careful not to deify our founding fathers.
 - a) However: **Jeremiah 17:9**
5. We must be careful not to attack the unbeliever.
 - a) **Matthew 5:13-16**
6. **"Believe - Be Like Jesus"** 10 weeks of the Fruit of the Spirit
 - a) **Week 1 - "Love"**
 - 1) **"agape"** - selfless and sacrificial
 - b) **Week 2 - "Joy"**
 - 1) Joy is the opposite of negativity
 - a. **"complainers"** - those who express dissatisfaction with a circumstance which in itself is not wrong and you do nothing to help correct it.
 - b. **"criticizers"** - come from those who dwell on the faults of another with no view of action for good.
 - c. **"Negativity"** - Nobody wants to be around those who are negative. They are faithless, loveless, and destructive about people or situations that only validate our flesh and don't advance God's purposes. **AND HE HEARS EVERY WORD.**
 - 2) Joy is the deep down sense of well-being that abides in the heart of the person who knows all is well between himself and the Lord.

7. The "**Fruit of the Spirit**" is produced in us when we are "**Controlled**" by the Spirit.

a) **Ephesians 5:8**

1) "**filling**" - controlled, to be under the influence

b) **Colossians 3:16**

1) "**dwell**" - means to be at home in the heart.

8. **Galatians 5:22**

a) "**Patience**" - is a compound word in the Greek:

1) "**Mako**" = long

2) "**Thumia**" = tempered

9. Patience means to be "**long fused**"

10. Patience is a self-restraint of the mind before it gives room to action or passion.

I. THE PATIENCE OF GOD

1. **Romans 2:4**

a) God's "**Patience**" is associated with His mercy.

2. Patience refers to the ability to endure injustice inflicted by others and the willingness to accept irritating situations.

a) **1 Timothy 1:15-16**

3. **Dr. Floyd Barachman**

a) "*Patience is the quality that enables God to bear long with those who annoy or provoke Him.*"

b) **Romans 15:5**

1) "**endurance**" - is the same greek word Makothumia (patience).

4. **Psalm 86:14-17**

a) God is patient in that He puts up with man's ignorance.

5. **2 Peter 3:9**

a) God is patient with the unbeliever.

II. THE BELIEVER'S PATIENCE

1. The believer's patience is to be analogous to God's.

2. Patience is one of God's communicable attributes. (Means it can be possessed by man.)

3. **James 5:7-11**

a) We are to be patient in suffering.

4. Remember since "patience" is a manifestation of the "Fruit of the Spirit" we can only possess it through the power and work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

5. **VERY IMPORTANT:** Patience comes from a position of power.

6. Losing patience is a sign of weakness.

7. When we are patient we look like Jesus.

III. PATIENCE ON DISPLAY

1. **James 5:10**

a) The O.T. prophets ceaselessly spoke God's Word to an abusive audience.

2. **Jeremiah**

a) **Jeremiah 38:1-16**

b) Jeremiah prophesied the Word of the Lord to his people and was thrown into a cistern.

3. **Elijah**

a) **1 Kings 19:1-8**

b) Elijah was so worn out from his fight with Jezebel that he wanted to die.

4. **Daniel**

a) **Daniel 6:16-28**

b) Because of Daniel's obedience to God he was thrown into the lion's den by a king who was his friend.

5. **Noah**

a) **2 Peter 2:5**

b) While God delayed judgment, Noah prophesied of the coming destruction, and in 120 years did not have a single convert.

CONCLUSION:

1. **Colossians 1:11**

2. Patience is the evidence of an inner strength.