

“Patience: Cultivating Perseverance”

Galatians 5:16-25

Pastor Caleb Lenard

Introduction

- Main Idea: Patience = the ability to face troubles and delayed gratification without lashing out at others or losing faith in God and his good purposes
- The Fruit of Patience
 - Forbearance is the loving tolerance shown towards the weaknesses, failures, and sins of others against us, responding in compassion and mercy and not retaliating in judgment or vengeance, no matter how warranted that may be.
 - Long-suffering is the ability to endure trials and hardships with joy, without losing faith in God or his good purposes.
- Weeds
 - The opposite of patience is resentment, revenge and unrighteous anger.
 - Counterfeit patience is indifference or cynicism
 - The fertilizer is contemplating God’s patience with us and trusting his providential care of us.

A Dynamic Duo

- Forbearance: Patiently Reacting to the Faults and Failures of Others
 - The forbearance of God in Jesus Christ

- Two Responses
 - Repent

- Display

- Opposites and Counterfeits

- Long-suffering: Patiently Reacting to Circumstances and Trials
 - Spiritual patience depends upon the fertilizer of a love and trust in the providence of God.

Conclusion

- “The weightiest end of the cross of Christ that is laid upon you lieth upon your strong Saviour.” – Samuel Rutherford