

Come let us Grow Together: Our Entire Walk with God through this Lifetime

Come let us Grow Together is a weekly series that deals with the many topical categories that exist within the Word of God. The purpose of this series is to grow in wisdom, knowledge and understanding in things pertaining to God.

God's will for our lives is for us to live in peace. Peace of mind. The place of contentment and rest in the hope we have both now and in the world to come. "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men." (Rm 12:18) "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:" (Heb 12:14) "In your patience possess ye your souls." (Lk 21:19)

Let's talk about patience. In the context of the scripture given here in Luke the Word of God is referring to the end of days. However, it applies to each of our daily walks as well. Not from that particular scripture taken in it's context, but in conjunction with all the scriptures that speak of patience. It all comes down to our patience not only in God's time but also for God's purpose. And we are given precious promises such as knowing that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Rm 8:28) Whether it be unjustly held in captivity such as Joseph who made the proclamation "But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive", (Gen 50:20) or whether it be for a just reason that one is in their situation due to bad choices such as King David who had a just man killed in battle to steal his wife away from him and so lost his first son of Bathsheba. "And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die. Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die. And Nathan departed unto his house. And the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife bare unto David, and it was very sick." (2 Sam 12:13-15)

Our entire walk with God through this lifetime is a walk of hope while also suffering afflictions and that of patience. "Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy." (James 5:10-11) "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord." (James 1:2-7)

Count it all joy when you fall into divers temptations. When our flesh is in struggles with the cares of this life and deceitfulness of lusts and riches of this life we are to count this all joy because happy is the man that endures for this man is laid up a crown of life. "Blessed is the man

that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.” (James 1:12) “Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.” (James 1:3) “In your patience possess ye your souls.” (Lk 21:19) “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.” (Heb 12:2-3)

“For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.” (Gal 5:17) This is how you end up in a contrast of opposing thoughts when trying to follow after the Spirit. There is a war here. Yet you can find peace, love, and joy in the Holy Ghost while patiently enduring “stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.” (2 Cor 11:23-28)

“For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.” (1 Thess 1:5-7) **LOOK AT THE CONTRAST!!!** Having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost.

“For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:” (Col 1:9-12)

WITH JOYFULNESS, Strengthened with ALL MIGHT, according to HIS GLORIOUS POWER... leading unto ALL PATIENCE and LONGSUFFERING..... YET WITH JOYFULNESS!! YET THIS CAN BE DONE WITH ALL JOYFULNESS!!!! LET THE MERRY HEART SING AND REJOICE FOR WHEN YOU ARE WEAK THEN ARE YOU STRONG!!!! AND THOUGH LED AS SHEEP TO THE SLAUGHTER WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH HIM THAT LOVED US!! REMEMBERING IN PATIENCE POSSESS YE YOUR SOULS!!! WITH ALL JOYFULNESS EVEN AS CHRIST SUFFERED YET IN ALL PATIENCE AND LONGSUFFERING WITH JOYFULNESS HE BORE OUR SINS DESPISING THE SHAME YET LOOKING AHEAD AT THE JOY.