

Talk Is Cheap!

Real Faith Deals With Delays Patiently

*Brothers and sisters, be patient; the Lord will come. So be patient until that time. Look at the farmers. They have to be patient. They have to wait for their valuable crop to grow and produce a harvest. They wait patiently for the first rain and the last rain. You must be patient too. Never stop hoping. The Lord is coming soon. Brothers and sisters, don't complain against each other. If you don't stop complaining, you will be judged guilty. And the Judge is ready to come! Brothers and sisters, follow the example of the prophets who spoke for the Lord. They suffered many bad things, but they were patient. And we say that those who accepted their troubles with patience now have God's blessing. You have heard about Job's patience. You know that after all his troubles, the Lord helped him. This shows that the Lord is full of mercy and is kind. **James 5:7-11 (ERV)***

Real Faith Waits Patiently...

When circumstances are uncontrollable.

Look at the farmers. They have to be patient. They have to wait for their valuable crop to grow and produce a harvest. They wait patiently for the first rain and the last rain. You must be patient too.

When the Truth is unpopular.

...follow the example of the prophets who spoke for the Lord. They suffered many bad things, but they were patient. And we say that those who accepted their troubles with patience now have God's blessing.

When pain seems unbearable and unexplainable.

You have heard about Job's patience. You know that after all his troubles, the Lord helped him. This shows that the Lord is full of mercy and is kind.

What to Remember While I'm Dealing With Delays:

Remember: God is in control.

...be patient; the Lord will come. So be patient until that time... Never stop hoping. The Lord is coming soon.

Remember: God will reward my patience.

And we say that those who accepted their troubles with patience now have God's blessing.

Remember: God's purpose will prevail if I persist.

You have heard about Job's patience. You know that after all his troubles, the Lord helped him. This shows that the Lord is full of mercy and is kind.

So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

Galatians 6:9 (NLT)

James' Tips on How to Trust God During a Delay:

1. Like farmers, wait expectantly.

Look at the farmers. They have to be patient. They have to wait for their valuable crop to grow and produce a harvest. They wait patiently for the first rain and the last rain. You must be patient too. Never stop hoping.

2. Like prophets, wait without complaining.

...don't complain against each other. If you don't stop complaining, you will be judged guilty. And the Judge is ready to come! ...follow the example of the prophets who spoke for the Lord. They suffered many bad things, but they were patient.

*"It is good to continue to hope and wait silently for the Lord to save us." **Lamentations 3:26 (GW)***

3. Like Job, wait confidently.

If a man dies, can he come back to life? But I will wait for better times, wait till this time of trouble is ended.

Job 14:14 (GNT)

In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. **Philippians 1:4-6 (NIV)**

The Lord isn't slow to do what he promised, as some people think. Rather, he is patient for your sake. He doesn't want to destroy anyone but wants all people to have an opportunity to turn to him and change the way they think and act. **2 Peter 3:9 (NOG)**