



Divinely Blessed & Restored

Impatience

The Breeding Ground for Weak Faith[©]

Submitted By: Doris B. Ryans

"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 5:11 KJV

Webster Dictionary defines impatience as; "lack of patience, eager desire for relief or change; restlessness, intolerance of anything that thwarts or hinders". I don't know about you, but sometimes I am all of the above! Are you?

Impatience can come upon us in good and in bad situations. I can remember as a child eager for Christmas or my birthday to arrival. Why? Both meant presents and I was impatient to receive them! As an adult, my impatience seems to be when I am in a trying or uncomfortable season in life. Usually, as an adult, we know what we want, and we know when we want *it: right now!* And, we know how we want "*it*" to be. But, when God's plan doesn't allow "*it*" to happen: *right now*, we become impatient. We allow ourselves to become apprehensive and anxious as we nervously wait for God to act. It is at this time we must learn to wait patiently for the things that God has in store for us even when waiting is difficult. We must maintain our faith and trust in God.

For most of us, patience is a hard thing to master. How do we accomplish this? We must learn perseverance. Webster Dictionary defines perseverance as "a steady persistence in a course of action, purpose, or state. A continuance to the end, despite the difficulties or obstacles". We must develop perseverance and patience or we will find ourselves losing our faith in God's perfect timing.

Why is it so hard for us to wait? We are beings who seek solutions to our problems today - not tomorrow. We are a fast-paced society where everything is instant! I see it, I want it, I get it – regardless of whether or not I need it or I can afford it. The world recognizes the "high achiever" the person that makes things happen – quickly! You see the problem? We have allowed the world's expectations to become our measuring stick for God! Still, God instructs us to wait patiently for **HIS** plans to unfold, and that's exactly what we must do.

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk, and not faint". Isaiah 40:31 NIV

Sometimes we cause trouble for ourselves, with our unrealistic expectations of others and ourselves. On other occasions, we see other people “*moving ahead*” in the world, and we want to move ahead with them. We become impatient with ourselves, with our circumstances, and even with our Creator. When we are in trying times and situations much as we want it to end, we must realize that God operates on His own timetable, not ours. We must do as Isaiah 40:31 instructs us; renew our strength. That is what will help us run and not be weary, continue to walk on, wait, and not faint.

Are you tired, ask God for patience and strength. Are you discouraged? Believe in His promises. Are you frustrated or fearful? Pray as if everything depended upon God.

Corrie ten Boom, one of God’s faithful servants once said, “If you want to hear God’s voice clearly, and you are uncertain, then remain in His presence until His changes that uncertainty. Often, much can happen during this waiting for the Lord. Sometimes, He changes pride into humility, doubt into faith and peace.” Having trouble hearing God! If so, slow yourself down, tune out the distractions and listen carefully.

If we want to receive the promises of God, we must be willing to run the race. Dig your heels in, and determinedly say to the devil, I’m not bulging, I’m not giving in, I’m holding my position, I’m not losing faith in my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and HIS outworking of this situation. Say with boldness – I don’t mind waiting, I don’t mind waiting, on the Lord!!!

Divinely Blessed & Restored

P.O. Box 31-1405
 Detroit, MI 48231
 Ph: 313-566-0944
 Fx: 313-566-0945

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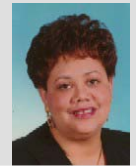
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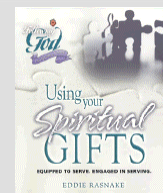
He is the key to knowledge, He is the wellspring of wisdom, He is the foundation of faith. He is the doorway of deliverance, He is the pathway to peace. He is the roadway of righteousness, He is the gateway to glory, He is the highway to happiness. He is All in All!! *Anne Graham Lots*

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Using Your
 Spiritual Gifts *by*
Eddie Rasnake

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