

Teacher: John Burton

Teaching Title: The Grace of Patience

- I. Grace is Divine Ability
 - a. We have to remember that the fruits of the Spirit are outcomes and results.
 - i. When we are wildly surrendered and deeply intimate with Jesus, our feelings, behaviors, attitudes and actions change.
 - ii. Our actions reveal a deeper issue in our heart, whether positive or negative.
 - iii. Yes, we should work to love better, to be more kind, to be joyful, BUT without going to the root, we will burn out. We'll walk in defeat.
 1. We need encounters with Jesus, we need to be planted and rooted in him at a very intentional and deep level if we want to see the good fruit grow out of us.
 - b. Intimacy with Jesus results in powerful, tangible, supernatural ability that isn't there naturally.
 - i. This ability is called grace.
 - ii. Grace doesn't overlook our weaknesses. It empowers us to overcome our weaknesses.
 - iii. Literally, grace in Scripture means favor and divine empowerment of God.
 - iv. "But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (2 Corinthians 12:9, ESV)
 1. It's not our strength that overcomes a lack of love, joy or patience.
 2. It's God's grace, his favor, his empowering.
 - v. Intimacy with God (not striving with self) results in love, peace, gentleness and patience.
 1. When we are connected with God at that level, his presence overwhelms our circumstances and patience supernaturally results.
 2. The Kabod is the glory of God that we can feel.
 - a. It's weighty.
 - b. When the Kabod of God hits our bod, we are overwhelmed with peace, patience, love, power over sin, abundant life and wild joy!
 - c. Can you imagine literally being soaked by the Kabod, the glory, and becoming angry and irritated about something trivial?
 - vi. The fruit of the Spirit demands that we become familiar with the invisible realm of God.
 1. "For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?"

But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.” (Romans 8:22–26, ESV)

II. Greek and Hebrew Words for Patience

- a. Makrothumía: “Long-tempered” — to endure offenses or suffering without anger.
 - i. Specifically, patience with people — enduring provocation, injustice, or insult with grace.
 - ii. The fruit results in forgiveness and mercy.
 - iii. “I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,” (Ephesians 4:1–2, ESV)
 - iv. You won’t survive in ministry, in life or on social media if you aren’t long-tempered.
 1. If you follow me on social, you’ll see I don’t hold back sharing truth, but I rarely get baited into debate or argument.
 2. My satisfaction cannot come from being “right” and proving others “wrong,” even if they are cruel and insulting.
 3. How will you respond when offended? We must be unoffendable, and this only comes when graced with patience.
- b. Hypomonē: “Remaining under” — steadfast endurance under pressure.
 - i. Specifically, patience with circumstances — continuing faithfully through trials or suffering.
 - ii. “Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” (James 1:2–4, ESV)
 - iii. God will grace us to respond with integrity, love, peace and patience when, in the natural, we’d be derailed.
 - iv. I know several people who were powerful fire-breathers, ministers, prayer warriors, who are now derailed.
 1. The enemy is ruthless but the fruit of patience and steadfastness will cause us to endure and win the battle.
- c. Anexikakía: “To hold up under evil” — a calm tolerance of wrongdoing.
 - i. Specifically, patience with those who mistreat you.
 - ii. Gentle, instructive patience toward those in opposition.
 - iii. “And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil,” (2 Timothy 2:24, ESV)
 - iv. Story of forgiving and lungs healing.
- d. ’Erek ’appayim: “Slow to anger” — God’s character of patience and mercy toward sinners.
 - i. Divine restraint and compassion

- ii. “The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,” (Exodus 34:6, ESV)
- iii. In the face of some of the greatest wickedness in the history of the world, will we be slow to anger? Will we have patience toward those who are promoting evil? Will we have compassion for those who are being destroyed by Satan?
- iv. Remember, we fight demons, not people.
- e. Qavah: “To wait, to hope, to look eagerly for”
 - i. Waiting in expectation and faith for God’s timing
 - ii. Active, hopeful patience that trusts in God’s faithfulness
 - iii. “but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:31, ESV)
 - iv. In Genesis, at age 75, God promised Abraham that he’d be the father of many nations.
 - v. Then, at age 85, God revealed the following:
 1. “And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.” (Genesis 15:4–6, ESV)
 2. However, his belief, his faith, proved faulty.
 3. Abraham didn’t “Qavah.”
 4. He wasn’t patient.
 5. Just one year later, at age 86, Abraham and Hagar have a child, Ishmael.
 6. His human effort to rush God’s promised devastation, even though the promise was ultimately fulfilled.
 7. At age 99, God confirmed his promise would be fulfilled within one year.
 8. At age 100, Isaac was born.
 9. “The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised. And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him.” (Genesis 21:1–2, ESV)
 - vi. How much human power are we using to advance in life?
 1. Are we giving birth to Ishmaels?
 2. “and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.” (Romans 9:7–8, ESV)
 3. There is a time to wait, to stay in the secret place, develop intimacy with God and actually hear his voice so the promise in our lives can come.



4. He is ready to reveal his heart to us if we are willing to wait. If we have the grace, the fruit, of patience.