

WORD OF THE DAY



WORD OF THE DAY ([Galatians 5:22-23](#))

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, **forbearance(patience)**, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." - NIV

MEDITATE ON THIS (PATIENCE)



The Fourth Fruit of the Spirit is Patience. We live in a world bound by time. Some aspects of time are man-made such as time zones, daylight savings time, and what numerical date to assign to a given day. However, other facets of time are more objective and chronological, such as the order of the 4 seasons, the coming of adolescence before adulthood, and waiting for the appointed time for a package to arrive in the mail. Since we are bound by time in many aspects of life, being patient helps us to not become overly stressed or anxious.

Why Wait? Although waiting can sometimes refer to waiting in a chronological sense for the streams of time to meet us, for the Christian, waiting means much more. For the Christian, waiting often emphasizes obedience and trust. While in some situations we have no choice but to wait, such as a prisoner doing their time in jail; other times we are able to forsake waiting by acting based on our own wisdom and power. Therefore we see that patience is not simply a passive state in which we endure an uncomfortable experience, but it also has an active participating component in which we make a choice to for-go our will and not chart a new course.

Wait, it will Come. For example, Jesus told the disciples to wait for the filling of the Holy Spirit before they went out to proclaim the gospel. God told Abraham to wait for the promised son Issac instead of charting his own path to the solution through Hagar. And in Psalm 62:5 the Psalmist writes "*My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from Him.*" The Bible is filled with many stories that show that when God's people refuse to wait, they chart out on a fool's errand without the compass of God's guidance, the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish it, and the protection of the angels to preserve their steps. Wait upon God. Wait.

-Your brother in Christ, **WNL**

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Ironically, more delays are caused by not waiting, then by waiting.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, thank you for your patience. Fill me up with patience each and every day this year so that I will not see waiting as a delay but as preparation. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.



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