

Endurance Part 2!

KJV James 5:10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience (endurance). (we consider them blessed that endured)

11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience (endurance) of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

Endurance is the ability to stay the course over a long period of time; enduring hardships, challenges, heartaches, trials and tests.

Job's affliction lasted (7) seven years!

- Stripped of all his worldly possessions!
- All his children killed in an instant!
- Tortured in his body with sore disease!
- Tempted by the devil!
- Harassed by his wife!
- Criticized by his friends! Nevertheless held fast his integrity,

When Job had endured his tests and trails God richly blessed him; his **ending was greater** than his **great beginning**.

Could this be why James said this at the very beginning of his letter:

NIV James 1:2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds,

3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

Endurance is the ability to stay the course over a long period of time; enduring hardships, challenges, heartaches, trials and tests.

James says we should get as happy as Job was in chapter **42:12...**

ESV Job 42:12-13 And the LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning. And he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 yoke of oxen, and 1,000 female donkeys.

13 He had also seven sons and three daughters.

Endurance gets our latter days blessed beyond measure!

ESV Hebrews 12:1-3 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

The apostle Paul says—you feel like quitting, giving up and throwing in the towel?

You say it's too hard and you can't go on!

Well we are surrounded by the saints who **endured!**

They handled their business during their time here on earth—that's why they are our heroes!

They ought to encourage us!

Well they're all watching us right now and if they can't encourage us then just look at Jesus!

The **Author, Finisher, Founder and Perfecter** of our faith!

Look at what He endured—a sinless Savior at the hands of sinners!

He did it out of obedience and for the joy of one day having us all living in His presence.

He endured the cross, despising the shame!

Paul says if we think about Jesus we won't give up and faint!

ESV Hebrews 12:4 In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.