

A Lesson on Endurance!

KJV Hebrews 10:35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

36 For ye have need of patience (endurance), that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Confidence comes from our ability to **trust!** In our case it's our ability to **trust God!**

To trust that God rewards faithfulness!

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Our confidence that God rewards faithfulness produces endurance!

Endurance is the **tenacity** to apply faith to move forward against all odds toward the promises of God.

It's a person who uses their faith in God to sustain them when the pressures of life come against them.

Endurance is the ability to “**keep on keepin on**” no matter what!

ESV Luke 21:19 *By your endurance you will gain your lives.*

Jesus said in **The Last Days** the one of the most critical attitudes to have in order to survive and sustain Kingdom momentum is **endurance**.

Jesus tells us **not to be** fearful, of the wars, rumors of wars, famine, plagues, or **the persecution** that's coming upon the earth. (Matt 24:6)

Just wake up every day and “**Keep On Keepin On**”!

❖ **This is why training is so important, especially in The Kingdom!**

NIV 1 Timothy 4:8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

Whose training you and what are they training you to do?

Because endurance is a learned behavior!

- The apostle Paul taught his son in ministry Timothy **perilous times** are coming, so Timothy could prepare himself to endure them.

Jesus says, “*if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.*”

The **mentally blind** can only teach & lead the **mentally blind** for neither know and understand where to go or what to do!

Only the **mentally tough** can teach **mental toughness**!

Isaiah 56:10 Israel's watchmen are blind. None of them know anything. All of them are like dogs that are unable to bark. They lie around dreaming; they love to sleep.

The **watchmen** are the shepherds, spiritual leaders God called and anointed to perceive what's happening & prepare the people.

KJV 1 Chronicles 12:32 And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do.

Isaiah says at this point they are **blind** meaning they cannot see in the spirit realm; they cannot see what God, or the enemy is planning!

God is not a name caller, He's an identity revealer! He's telling us their **true nature**, regardless to what they look like and say!

GWN Psalm 22:16 Dogs have surrounded me. A mob has encircled me. They have pierced my hands and feet.

This of course is speaking prophetically of Christ! The mob or dogs that surrounded Him desiring His death were religious leaders of the day!

While they were **teachers, priests & leaders** who should have clearly known who Christ was and telling the people to follow Jesus; instead they used their mouths (influence) against Jesus and like dogs sought to eat up His flesh!

God says instead of acting like **shepherds**, they were being **dogs**!

- **Knowing who someone is doesn't always tell us what they are!**

Shepherds are supposed to **lead and feed** the flock, protecting them from the dangers of wild animals waiting for the opportunity to attack.

A person can wear the clothing of a shepherd and be a dog.

- **Dogs on the other hand will eat anything!**

A **dog's life** epitomizes a life of ease devoid of work and anxiety, they lay around until their master calls them and feeds them.

They have no responsibility other than to make their masters happy and **bark** when they're happy or sense danger.

There's a **big** difference between a **pastor** and a **pet**!

Today many people are looking for **pets & NOT pastors**, comfort dogs they carry around to ease their pain, and help them cope with life!

Too many people have made pastors their emotional support dog!

Today people marry, hook up and chose friends to be **pets**, they don't want healthy relationships just good vibes every day!

A **pastor/shepherd** is there to **lead** you; not **follow** you!

Leading takes the ability **to see!** To **watch & pray**, to live in a place with God where He show them what's important.

A **true shepherd** doesn't ask the sheep where they want to go!

❖ **Shepherds lead, dogs chase!**

Shepherds **teach** with anointing while dogs **bark** with anger!

Shepherds use their energy to move the sheep toward a purpose, dogs use their energy to chase the sheep, forcing them to move!

KJV Isaiah 56:10 His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.

Isaiah by The Holy Ghost said their shepherds were **ignorant** they ignored what was important to the nation. They payed attention to the wrong things!

Did you know you can have an excellent teacher whose teaching you the wrong things?

Isaiah says they are **dumb**, meaning they have no knowledge of what their **function** is and therefore cannot function as shepherds.

KJV Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge:

He says they **can't even bark**, that's what dogs do to warn you!

Even a dog will **warn** us of danger!

Isaiah says all they do is **lay down** and **sleep**, he says they **love to dream!**

KJV Isaiah 56:10 His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.

They are **always** in **spirit realm**, (what do I mean), they're always in the **dream world** living between **reality & fantasy!**

Loving sleep is a metaphor for living in a dream world a world of their own creation!

Walking around with their eyes closed trying to convince people what they see is real.

They're blind leaders of the blind, ill prepared for the world that is NOW and the world that is TO COME!

A blind leader can't SEE ditches so they can't teach you how to avoid them!

ESV Philippians 3:1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you.

2 Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh.

The **Book of The Revelation of Jesus Christ** tells us the type of spirits who won't be allowed into The City of God...

The list starts with **dogs** first then **sorcerers**, sexual sinners, then murders etc.

First on the list is **dogs!** They are so vile and repulsive they are listed above **sorcerers and murderers.**

Dogs were not pets in those days, they ran in packs feeding off the dead, weak and wounded.

They were unclean, lazy, garbage eating animals, being called a dog was one of the worst insults a person could give.

- A **nick name** for a male prostitute was a **dog!** (Deu 23:18)

Endurance as we said is the ability to **keep on keepin on**, if we haven't been taught to keep on keepin on, *we won't know how to or even that we should **never** give up!*

If our teachers don't teach us to be strong in The Lord and the power of His might, we will be weak and lack confidence in God!

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Hold on to your **confidence** in God (**keep telling Him all your secrets**)!
36 For ye have need of patience (**endurance**), **God's strength & approval**
Stop telling everyone else your problems and tell your heavenly Father!

*Hebrews 4:15 We have a chief priest who is able to sympathize with our weaknesses. He was tempted in every way that we are, but he didn't sin.
16 So we can go confidently to the throne of God's kindness to receive mercy and find kindness, which will help us at the right time.*

Do you see where I'm leading you, to JESUS! To your help, to your strength, to The One who promised to **never** leave or **forsake** you!

So after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

I'm leading you to The Promisor so you can get what He Promised!