

Sermon Notes

The Call for Patience in an Impatient World

James 5:7-11 (NIV)

Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

Background: "The last days"

1. We are waiting, and waiting is never easy
2. As God's children, we are called to maintain a certain demeanor (inside and out): patience
 - a. As a farmer with his crop
 - b. As with Job: who did not curse God and give up
 - c. As with the prophets: who did not give up
3. When we lose patience
 - a. We grumble
 - b. We give up
 - c. We forget God's mercy
 - d. We judge
4. Reminder: It is worth persevering
 - a. God is worth it
 - b. God is merciful