

*James 5.7-12 Wait for the Lord*

**Wait for the Lord, v. 7-8**

- I. For those who are being mistreated, wait for the Lord.
  - A. When there seems to be no solutions to your problems, be patient, and wait for the true Problem-Solver, who can transform your difficult situations.
    - 1. The farmer has no control over when it rains and when and if the crops would grow. He has to totally rely upon God. And God is faithful to bring forth growth (Deut. 11.14).
      - a) All that we are waiting for comes from God. He will reverse our misfortunes, so there is no need for personal vengeance (Rom. 12.19; Rev. 22.12). So, strengthen your resolve to follow Christ. He will deliver you (Rev. 21.3).

**Be Patient with One Another, v. 9-11**

- I. So, we should live in light of his coming judgment. The sins of the tongue here are twofold. First, we are to be patient with one another.
  - A. “Do not grumble against one another.” To grumble is to groan or sigh in a complaining manner about someone else, usually done behind their backs.
    - 1. Why? “So, that you may not be judged.” If our hope is in the Lord Jesus Christ and his return (Mark 13.29; Rev. 3.20) as the just judge and avenger of wrongs done to us, why do we grumble and make wrongful judgments?
      - a) This is what it means to bear the cross as we bear with one another and bear oppression (Gal. 6.2; Eph. 4.2; Col. 3.13; Ex. 3.7-8; Matt. 5.22).
    - 2. First, consider the prophets (Matt. 5.11-12; 23.29-36; Heb. 11.35-38).
      - a) Their only hope of salvation and deliverance was from the Lord.
        - (1) Doing God’s will, will lead to suffering and we must wait for the Lord to transform our situations.
    - 3. Secondly, consider Job. Consider the irony that neither of the two mentioned are innocent of grumbling or complaining but they rested in the hope of the coming Lord (Job 19.26).

- a) When we see God, he will transform all of our problems to good.
  - (1) Consider Job 42.5-17. This was not only to show us Job’s faith but to show us God’s compassion and mercy toward those who do not deserve it.
    - (a) Through Christ’s patient longsuffering, bearing the cross, dying and rising from the dead, he restores us.

**Speak Truthfully with One Another, v. 12**

- I. Secondly, another sin of the tongue that occurs under pressure is swearing an oath in the name of God too quickly (Matt. 5.33-37; 23.16-22).
  - A. This is in regard to personal oaths in personal relationships not official oaths like what we do in court, etc. (Lev. 19.12, 18; Matt. 23.16-22; 12.37).
    - 1. He is calling us to be truthful in our speech (Eph. 4.15), yes or no.
      - a) Just as God swore a vow that he kept in the gospel (Heb. 6.13-20). God is trustworthy, so should we.
        - (1) He will not take back his word. He holds on to us so that we may hold on to his promises (2 Cor. 4.17). Amen.