

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Patience

SERMON REFERENCE: Hebrews 10:35-37

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2126

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Hebrews 10:36
 - i) We all need patience.
 - ii) The author is talking about waiting on the promise.
- b) With God, timing is more important than time.
 - i) Many people want it and want it now.
 - (1) We want instant gratification.
 - ii) Often with God, there is a time of waiting between asking and receiving.
 - (1) Hebrews 10:36
- c) Charles Haddon Spurgeon said that God's promises are like checks drawn from Heaven's bank that we endorse by faith and then present to God for payment.
 - i) The only problem is that sometimes those checks are postdated.
 - (1) Sometimes it seems that God delays His answer.
- d) God has reasons for delaying His answer:
 - i) The development factor.
 - (1) James 1:3-4
 - (a) In this passage, the word "perfect" means "mature," "entire," "wanting nothing."
 - (2) Sometimes God does not give us what we want right when we want it because God is developing us and growing us.
 - (a) We may not be spiritually ready to handle the blessing that God has for us.
 - (b) There are things that parents want to give to their children, but they cannot give them those things right away.
 - (i) We do not want to do the right thing the wrong way.
 - 1. There are things that we want to give, but we know that the child is not quite ready.
 - ii) The diligence factor.
 - (1) God wants us to be diligent.
 - (2) God does not give promises and answers to those who are not diligent.
 - (a) Hebrews 11:6
 - (3) We have to be diligent in our prayers.
 - (a) We have prayers today that are easily offered and soon forgotten.
 - (b) Some of our prayers are such wandering generalities rather than specifics that many of us cannot remember what we have prayed for and whether or not God has answered those prayers.
 - iii) The devotional factor.
 - (1) Many times, we are seeking the blessing rather than seeking the Lord who is the blesser.
 - (2) We are to seek His face.
 - (3) We are not to seek His hand.
 - (a) We are to hold on to God even when the promise does not seem to come right away.

- e) In today's message, we will look at three things from Scripture that tell us how to hold on to a promise.

2) REMEMBER YESTERDAY'S PROVISION

a) Hebrews 10:32-35

- i) In this passage, there is a command.
- ii) They were about ready to cast away their confidence and their faith.
 - (1) They were ready to quit because they were going through persecutions, problems, and trials that seemed greater than they could bear.
- iii) The writer of Hebrews tells them to remember that they had borne these problems before and had gotten through them before.
 - (1) He tells them to remember what happened yesterday, and how they "took joyfully the spoiling of their goods".
 - (a) If someone were to take our things from us and we had no choice in the matter, we could still choose to rejoice.
 - (i) This is what they did.
 - (2) Their goods had been confiscated.
 - (a) What if an army occupied our homes, moved all of our furniture out, put soldiers in our houses, and then said that because we were Christians, we had no rights whatsoever?
 - (b) These kinds of things happened to the people of this day because they were believers.
 - (3) What they did was to just simply praise the Lord.
 - (4) Satan can intimidate us about these things.
 - (a) He will say that if we do not do what he wants, then he will take away everything that we have.
 - (i) We need to tell him that we do not have anything; it all belongs to God.
 - (b) He may say that if we were to serve him, then he would give us things.
 - (i) We need to tell him that he cannot give us anything because we have everything.
 - (5) 2 Corinthians 6:10
- iv) The writer of Hebrews is telling the people, who are going through a trial and trying to hold on to a promise, to remember what they have already been through.

b) The God who was faithful then is the God who will be faithful.

- i) The God of our yesterdays is the God of our todays and tomorrows.
- ii) Hebrews 10:35
 - (1) Don't throw in the towel.
- iii) Hebrews 10:32
 - (1) Do we think that the God who brought us through before is not going to be able to bring us through again?

- c) Over and over again in the Bible, we are told to remember.
 - i) Psalm 77:11-12
 - ii) When Moses brought the children of Israel out of Egypt, he reminded them of all that God had done for them.
 - (1) He told them to remember all of the works of the Lord.
 - (a) Deuteronomy 2:7
 - iii) The purpose of the Lord's Supper is to remember.
 - (1) Luke 22:19
 - iv) We are prone to forget the works and the goodness of God.
 - v) Even when we do remember, we are guilty of selective memory.
 - (1) We don't remember all of the deliverances of God in the past.
 - (a) When the children of Israel came out of Egypt going to Canaan, they had difficulty in the wilderness.
 - (i) They remembered the food that they had in Egypt.
 - 1. Exodus 16:2-3
 - (ii) They did not remember the beatings they endured or making bricks without any straw.
 - 1. Exodus 5:6-7
 - d) Anyone who has walked with God knows that God has seen them through dark times.
 - i) Hebrews 10:32, 35
 - ii) God has brought us through difficulties, and we say that we will never doubt Him again.
 - (1) Then, we find ourselves later on doubting God again.
 - (a) We forget sometimes just how good our God is.
 - e) When we want to hold on to a promise, we need to remember yesterday's provision.
 - i) Don't quit.
 - ii) God took care of us yesterday.
 - iii) 1 Samuel 7:12
 - f) The God who brought us through before is the God who will bring us through again.

3) RESOLVE TODAY'S PATIENCE (HEBREWS 10:35-36)

 - a) God rewards faith.
 - i) Don't throw away your confidence because you will need it again.
 - (1) What a tragedy to throw away our most valuable possession when we are in trouble.
 - ii) In this passage, the word "patience" literally means "endurance."
 - (1) It means the ability to bear up under trials and difficulties.
 - b) Many fail to receive because they fail to endure.
 - i) If someone is running a race and they quit running, they are going to lose the race no matter how far ahead they may have been.
 - (1) A person cannot win if they quit.

- c) Patience is more than waiting.
 - i) It is more than passive resignation to trials.
 - ii) It is more than suffering silently.
 - iii) The word “patience” in the Greek language literally means “to abide under.”
 - (1) It has the idea of steadfastness.
 - (2) It has the idea of constancy.
 - (3) It has the idea of staying power.
 - iv) Patience is the bridge between doing the will of God and receiving the promise.
 - (1) Hebrews 10:36
 - (a) It is patience that links the will of God and the promise together.
 - v) Patience is not just sitting there, it is not just grinning and bearing it, it is not just stoically bearing up.
 - (1) It is a blazing hope that refuses to let go of the promise.
 - d) After we have done the will of God, we will inherit the promise.
 - i) Hebrews 10:36
 - ii) Many of us are good at reciting the promises without obeying the commandments.
 - e) Faith and endurance are an attitude and an action.
 - i) It is belief with legs on it.
 - ii) If we believe the promises of God, then we are going to do our duty.
 - (1) We are going to obey the commandments of God.
 - f) Psalm 37:1-3
 - i) To trust in the Lord is simply to do good.
 - (1) If we are not doing good, then we are not trusting.
 - g) If troubles and trials cause us to drop out, then we have need of patience.
 - i) We are not truly trusting.
 - h) If we drop out in times of trouble, then what we have done is to cast away our confidence.
 - i) We have thrown away the very thing that we need more than anything else in times of trouble.
 - i) Satan wants to paralyze us with fear and discouragement.
 - j) What do we do when we do not get the answer right away?
 - i) Remember yesterday’s provision.
 - ii) Resolve today’s patience.
 - (1) “I will endure.”
- 4) REST IN TOMORROW’S PROMISE (HEBREWS 10:37)
- a) Hebrews 10:37
 - i) That’s tomorrow; just hang on.
 - ii) This passage is a quotation from the Old Testament book of Habakkuk.
 - (1) The prophet Habakkuk had wondered where God was and why He let the wicked get away with all that they had done.

- (2) God spoke to Habakkuk.
 - (3) Habakkuk 2:3
 - (a) We cannot hurry the promises of God.
 - (b) Habakkuk was perplexed and did not understand.
 - (i) But he learned that what he could not understand, he could just stand under.
 - b) We want God to explain things to us.
 - i) We want it, and we want it now.
 - ii) But God does not explain things to us.
 - iii) God did not explain things to Habakkuk.
 - (1) He just told Habakkuk that it was not time and to wait, for the promise will come.
 - c) God does not owe us explanations.
 - i) God gives us promises.
 - ii) John 16:12
 - iii) Do not get the idea that all we need is an explanation.
 - (1) We would not be able to understand God's explanations if He gave them to us.
 - (2) God knows when the time is right.
 - d) Habakkuk changed his question from why to Who.
 - i) He began to look to the Lord.
 - ii) Habakkuk 3:17-19
 - (1) The people were farmers and shepherds.
 - (2) Habakkuk was talking about the total collapse of the economy.
 - (a) Though the economy may collapse and everything fall through, Habakkuk said, "Just take it and sing it."
 - e) In these dark days, God is going to give us a song.
- 5) CONCLUSION
- a) When you get a promise from the Word of God that talks about the kingdoms of this world becoming the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ, remember yesterday's provision, resolve today's patience, and rest in tomorrow's promise.
 - i) Don't let go and cast away your confidence.
 - b) Your standard of living may change, but your standard of life will not if you know the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - c) You have need of patience that you might inherit the promises.
 - i) Hebrews 10:36
 - d) Remember yesterday's provision.
 - i) He saw you through then, and He will see you through again.
 - e) Resolve today's patience.
 - i) It is not patience that solemnly waits in the dark; it is patience that gloriously anticipates the dawn.
 - f) Then, rest in tomorrow's promise.

- i) Though it tarries, it will come.
 - (1) Hebrews 10:37
- g) Get hold of the Word of God and never let it go.
- h) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- i) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16