

# Sound in Patience

Tit. 2:1, 2

## Introduction:

- A. As a part of sound doctrine, older men are urged to be sound in faith, love and *patience*.
  - 1. Patience is not the same as indifference, cowardice, laziness, procrastination or permissiveness.
  - 2. Patience involves waiting, endurance and persistence.
    - a. In the face of provocation and delay.
    - b. Out of trust for God's precepts, providence and promises
  - 3. Patience is against American culture.
- B. Patience important. (cf. Luke 21:19).
  - 1. Without it one may quit too soon or try to force results prematurely (cf. Sarah).
  - 2. With it we will eventually be rewarded and God's way vindicated.
- C. Patience is called for in certain important circumstances.

## Discussion:

- I. **The *Everyday Affairs of Life* Call For Patience.**
  - A. In domestic affairs.
  - B. In financial matters.
- II. **The *Pressures Of Being A Christian* Call For Patience. (cf. Rom. 12:12)**
  - 1. Not accepting deliverance (Heb. 11:35)
  - 2. Not provoked to do wrong. (1 Pet. 2:20-23; 4:15,16).
- III. **The *Preaching Of The Gospel* calls for patience.**
  - A. In season and out of season. (2 Tim. 4:1-2).
    - 1. When well received. (cf. Acts 13:44-49).
    - 2. When ill received. (cf. Acts 14:1-3).
  - B. Waiting for the harvest. (1 Cor. 3:6).
    - 1. Without demanding instant results.
    - 2. Without trying to force results.
    - 3. Without giving up on one too quickly. (2 Tim. 2:24-26)
- IV. **The *Operation of the Church* Calls for Patience.**
  - A. Abandon good works too quickly.
    - 1. Support of preachers in difficult places.
    - 2. Long term teaching programs for edification.
    - 3. Try good approach to growth, abandon if not instant results.
    - 4. Discipline.
  - B. Impatience with "getting things done" can cause:
    - 1. Abuses in organized churches.
      - a. Lording elders. (1 Pet. 3:1-5).
      - b. Circumvention of good elders.
    - 2. Abuses in unorganized churches.
      - a. Assumed leadership rather than appointed leadership. (cf. 3 John 9).
      - b. Oversight by default rather than by qualification.
      - c. Resort to simple majority rule.
    - 3. Abuses in organized and organized churches.
      - a. Rough shod treatment of brethren.
        - (1) The weak - young (cf. Rom. 14).
        - (2) The elderly. (cf. 1 Pet. 5:5).
      - b. Compromise principle rather than stay the course.

## Conclusion:

- A. Patience: time and persistence grow strongest crops.

B. Do not try the Lord's patience by procrastination.