



The Planter

"The seed is the word of God", Luke 8:11



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Be Patient

In James 5:7, James gives us some specific instructions concerning being patient. It is said as a response to those whose patience was being inflamed by the sinful actions of those in James 5:1-6. In just a few words, James has some pretty exhaustive instruction.

He addresses the who - "Be patient brethren." There's an ethic and morality expected of those in God's family that is more than for everyone else. Almost every use of the word "brethren" in the New Testament is addressed to Christians. As light-shiners and salt-spreaders, we must exhibit patience with others and especially other Christians.

He addresses the when - This command has a duration (an expiration date)-"Until the coming of the Lord." How long are we to remember Christ in the Lord's Supper? 1 Corinthians 11:26 says, "Until He comes." How long was Thyatira to hold onto what they had? Revelation 2:25 says, "Until Jesus would come." How long was Corinth to refrain from unrighteous judgements? 1 Corinthians 4:5 says, "Until the Lord comes." You don't encounter this phrase very often, but every time it regards a matter of significance. There will not come a point in time when you can cease being patient-it's as long as you live or until Christ comes again, whichever comes first.

He addresses the how – You have to strengthen your heart (be inwardly committed, cause to be firmer in attitude or belief). James is saying, "Steel yourself because this is going to get hard sometimes." When I think of people who have fallen away from the Lord, I think

of conversations with people who say they gave up on the church or the elders or the preacher. They weren't responsive enough, caring enough, or too nosy or not what they needed when they needed it. But ultimately this means these fallen ones weren't firm and unchanging within.

He addresses the why - "The coming of the Lord is near." Don't focus on a time element here, but on the need to endure for as long as the time is. It's constantly drawing nearer, not in a chronological sense, but an expectation and assurance that we expect it any time. I don't want to be caught living in a state of impatience with my brethren. If I am, it means I've lost focus on Christ's second coming!

I need to be convicted that impatience is not "no big deal." James ties it to spiritual harmony, divine superintendence, and eternal safety. We can't chalk up failure in this area as just our makeup, personality, and temperament. We must be obedient to the heavenly injunction and "be patient"!

--Copied

January 25, 2026

Designed to Suffer

Thom Vaught

Sunday Morning
Opening Prayer Tim Hester
Closing Prayer Charles Logan

Scripture Reading Tim York

Sunday Evening
Opening Prayer Jeff Duncan
Closing Prayer Jim Warnock

Remember in prayer:

Max Hollis is recuperating from back surgery Friday. He remains in Atrium Medical Center and will have rehab there.

Amanda Fletcher (radiation treatments).
Luke Keller, Jill Spears, Wally Booker, Joan Henry, Norene and Ronnie O'Kelly, Don Duncan, Joe Chambers, Bill and Billie Nolen, Stefan Hoglund, Sammy Wyers.

Oak View Nursing Home: Betty Floyd.

Home: Rachel Taylor.

Brothers Keepers Group Three will meet after services tonight.

All **Challenge Supplies** need to be in by next Sunday, **February 1st**. Thank you for your support.

Next Sunday, February 1st, we will have our monthly **Fellowship Meal** following our morning services; then our 1:00 pm Kids Sing/Singing and Devotional

Worship Service Assignments for February

Announcements: Carter Logan

Lord's Supper:

Adam Cordell Wk. 1 & 2

Kevin Hayes Wk. 3 & 4

Payton Payne, Charles Logan, Bo Eubanks

Captain James Riley set sail aboard the merchant ship Commerce in 1815. Riley and his crew were shipwrecked off the coast of the Western Sahara Desert in Africa. What followed was a harrowing story of suffering and survival. The crew endured robbery, murder, starvation, and dehydration as they tried to affect rescue on the desert coastline. After running out of food, they were forced to offer themselves as slaves to one of the nomadic Sahrawi tribes. In spite of the suffering and trials, Riley and several of his crew made it across the desert where their freedom was purchased by a British consul.

Archibald Robbins, an Able Seaman of the Commerce, reflecting on their experience said: "The crew of the Commerce seem to have been designed to suffer themselves, that the world, through them, might learn." I cannot speak with certainty to the validity of Archibald's claims but Abraham Lincoln cites their account as one of the three most influential works that shaped his ideology and views on slavery.

However, there is One who was made to suffer so that I might learn. Hundreds of years before He was born, Isaiah speaks about Him in chapter 53. "Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him." (Verses 4-6)

From the beginning of creation, Jesus was "designed to suffer" for you and I. It was part of the design so that we might learn just how much He and our God loves us.

Elders:

Steve Fletcher, Hugh Glaze, Dan Logan, Tim York

Deacons: Justin Glaze, Carter Logan, Adam Morgan, Jerry Reaves

Minister: Hugh Glaze

Song Leader: Adam Morgan

Record for the week of January 18, 2025

10 am	11 am	5 pm	Wed	Contribution
99	84	90	88	\$3250.00