

James 5:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

Analysis

Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be patient (makrothymēsate, μακροθυμήσατε) until the Lord's coming. James uses the farmer waiting for early and latter rain as metaphor for persevering hope.

Reformed eschatology nurtures patience by fixing eyes on Christ's return. Like farmers trust seasonal rains, believers trust the Lord's timing.

Historical Context

Palestinian agriculture depended on autumn and spring rains. Persecuted saints needed assurance that suffering would end with Christ's return, similar to Paul's encouragement in 1 Thessalonians 4-5.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. What long trial requires farmer-like patience from you?
2. How does Christ's coming shape your endurance?
3. What practices help you wait actively rather than passively?

Interlinear Text

μακροθυμῶν οὖν ἀδελφοί ἕως τῆς παρουσίας τοῦ

Be patient

G3114

therefore

G3767

ἀδελφοί

G80

ἕως

until

G3588

παρουσίας

τοῦ

G3588

κυρίου ἴδού, ὁ γεωργὸς ἐκδέχεται τὸν τίμιον

of the Lord

Behold

G3588

the husbandman

G1092

ἐκδέχεται

G3588

τίμιον

for the precious

G5093

καρπὸν τῆς γῆς μακροθυμῶν ἐπ' αὐτῷ ἕως ἀν

fruit

G3588

of the earth

G1093

Be patient

G3114

ἐπ'

αὐτῷ

G846

ἕως

G2193

ἀν

G302

λάβῃ ὑετὸν πρώιμον καὶ ὕψιμον

he receive

rain

the early

G4406

and

latter

G2983

G5205

G2532

G3797

Additional Cross-References

Joel 2:23 (References Lord): Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

Deuteronomy 11:14 (Parallel theme): That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.

Galatians 6:9 (Parallel theme): And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Colossians 1:11 (Parallel theme): Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

Hebrews 6:15 (Parallel theme): And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.

Romans 2:7 (Parallel theme): To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

Jeremiah 5:24 (References Lord): Neither say they in their heart, Let us now fear the LORD our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in his season: he reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest.

Galatians 5:5 (Parallel theme): For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

Matthew 24:44 (Parallel theme): Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

1 Thessalonians 2:19 (References Lord): For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

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