

# Becoming Mature in Christ

## *The Power of Patience*

James 5:7-12

March 22, 2026

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### Introduction:

- **James 5:7-12**
  - The Bible tells us that we will experience trials. But James tells us that if we patiently persevere through these hardships until Jesus returns, we will be rewarded.
  - How do we patiently persevere until the Lord's return?
  - Well, James gives us three encouraging examples of patient endurance and perseverance.
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### 1. The Farmer:

- a. A little boy planted some seeds and thought that later that day he would begin seeing the plants grow.
- b. **David Nystrom** ... *"I spent a part of my childhood on my uncle's grain farm in the Sacramento Valley of California. Each October my uncle planted wheat and oats and through the long winter he watched as the plants sprouted and then grew strong and tall. In the heat of June, he began the harvest, the Result, was the Harvest. But the harvest was not possible without the growth accomplished during the long hard months of winter."*
- c. We must go through tough times to grow in our walk.
- d. **Romans 5:1-5**
- e. Tracey Mayfield - *It's In The Valleys I Grow*

### 2. Old Testament Prophets:

- a. **Matthew 5:11-12**
- b. **Luke 11:47-49**
- c. Jesus lived a perfect life and yet many wanted to see Him gone.
- d. Please do not think that if you are doing God's Will, that you will never suffer.
- e. As a matter of fact, you may suffer just for doing God's Will.
- f. Consider the following:
  1. Elijah – **1<sup>st</sup> Kings 17:1**
  2. Jeremiah –
  3. Daniel –
  4. Ezekial ... Zachariah ... Hosea – and many others

- g. **Romans 12:12-13**
- h. **Galatians 6:7-9**
- i. **1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:13-17**
- j. Are you being patient with God's Will as it is being worked out in your life?

3. **The Account of Job:**

- a. The Bible tells us that if we persevere, we will be blessed. But we cannot persevere if we do not go through trials.
- b. Job loses everything that is dear to him, except for his wife and his health.
- c. His wife tells him to curse God and die!
- d. **Job 1:21-22**
- e. His friends say that he had to sin terribly for God to punish him like this.
- f. Everything was against Job.
- g. Yet Job endured.
- h. **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 10:13**