

Symphony of Love - Longsuffering 1/25/26 I Corinthians 13:1-8

Longsuffering is used in at least four lists in the Bible

Galatians 5:22-25 - **Fruit of the Spirit** – Longsuffering =

Patience - **Apple** “An apple a day keeps the doctor away and doctors have patients.” If you have little patience = Pediatrician!

**When go to the doctor you are suffering and you have to wait a long time in the waiting room!** Wait in exam room, for doctor to examine me, for nurse to fill out paperwork, wait for my

prescription and then wait for medicine to work! Psalm 27:14

Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord. **Willing to wait on a doctor (who is only practicing medicine) but not to wait on the Lord.**

Colossians 3:12-17 **Backbone** II Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer **persecution**. James

1:2-4 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers **temptations**; Knowing this, that the **trying** of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

**Longsuffering = Makrothumia** - “To burn long”

- **Long fuse (Camera ready for close-up)** - hero, heroine, fuse. Short fuse but get over quick.
- **Walking on eggshells - poppers (Camera focus on person walking on platform, especially feet)**
- **Candle (Camera ready for close-up)** - Blow it out, lights back up

I. GOD'S PATIENCE WITH ME Psalm 86:15 But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

A. His patience is my Salvation. II Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. Vs. 15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you. **Atheist** – “If there is a God, let Him prove it by striking me dead in the next 5 minutes.” **Cannot exhaust the patience of God in five minutes!**

1. Make sure you are saved. II Peter 3:14

Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

2. Condemned already without Christ. John 3:18

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. If not for the longsuffering of God we would be suffering long

in Hell! Revelation 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

a) God can save you! I Timothy 1:15-16 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

b) God is waiting for you. Psalm 86:15 But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth. [Thankful for His Mercy & Grace](#) – Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

c) Don't make Him wait any longer II Corinthians 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of

salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

B. His patience should lead us to repentance. ~~Luke 13:6-9~~ **Fig tree - found none** There is a limit, even to the patience of God Romans 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? Vs. 5 But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God. **REPENT!** Acts 17:30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent. **Not just Salvation – What is it that God is waiting for you to do?**

1. Baptism Acts 8:36 ...what doth hinder me to be baptized?
2. Church membership Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.
3. Get right with God Revelation 2:5, 3:3 **Student ride to Koolau – be there by 7:30 AM.**

II. MY PATIENCE WITH GOD James 5:7-8 **What are you doing to get ready for the Showers of Blessings of God?**

<https://www.hymnal.net/en/hymn/h/260> Verses 1 & Chorus)

Ezekiel 34:26-27 And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing. And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.

Plant seed in cup?

A. Plant the seeds of patience Galatians 6:7-9 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. [Apple trees do best when grafted on to rootstock](#) James 1:19-22

1. Give me patience & I want it now!!! James 1:2-6

2. Don't give up! Hebrews 6:10-12 "Be patient – God is not finished with me yet!" Job 13:15

Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.

B. Busy preparing to receive the early and latter rains” Hosea 10:12 Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to

seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

III. MY PATIENCE WITH OTHERS Ephesians 4:2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love. “Patience is a virtue, possesses it if you can. Seldom found in women, never found in man!”

A. Patience in forgiveness. ~~Matthew 18:26-30~~ (forgiven but would not forgive great debt) Lord’s Prayer - ~~Matthew 6:9-15~~ Only part explained

1. Get rid of the bitterness. Ephesians 4:31-32  
Worse than finding a worm in your apple?  
Half-worm! Bitterness (picture) is a worm that grows inside of you! Hebrews 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled.
2. Need faith Luke 17:5 And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith. 7x & 70 x 7
3. Need strength Colossians 1:10-11 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all **patience** and **longsuffering** with joyfulness. Like all muscles – need exercise
  - Patience = Cheerful or hopeful endurance (not complaining, whining, or griping)

- Longsuffering = Makrothumia

B. Patience in love I Corinthians 13:4 Charity suffereth long **Slow to boil** Proverbs 14:29 He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly. Proverbs 15:18 A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeaseth strife. Proverbs 16:32 He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city. Ephesians 4:26-27,31

II Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. **Strawberries are out of season (not for banquet) but still get them - just harder and cost more.**