Wednesday, April 8, 2020

**The Good from the Bad-Gain Endurance**

***We gain endurance in times of trouble.***

*Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,****2****fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.****3****For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary [*[*c*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+12%3A1-3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30216c)*]and lose heart.* Hebrews 12:1-3

*For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.* Hebrews 10:36

**FOCAL TRUTH:** Endurance in trials is necessary to do God’s will following the Lord Jesus Christ’s example.

\*What sin entangles you and keeps you from running the race? (Heb. 12:1)

\* Fix your eyes on Jesus while you endure. (Heb. 12:2)

\* Don’t grow weary as you endure trials, follow Christ’s example of endurance. (Heb. 12:3)

OBSERVATIONS:

1. The Need for Endurance (Hebrews 10:36, Hebrews 10:32-34)

* Followers of Jesus have endured many things for being Christians.
* Loss will come-we are not exempt just because we are Christian.
* Great conflicts and sufferings were there during Bible times and we are still enduring them in our lives now.

Endurance = testing of our faith: (James 1:3-4) ***3****knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.****4****And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

Endurance = blessings: (James 5:11) *We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord’s dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.*

1. The Duty of Endurance (Hebrews 10:36, John 4:34, Ephesians 5:17, Colossians 1:10, 1 Thessalonians 4:3)

* Are you doing the will of God? (John 4:34) *Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work.*
* Do you understand what the will of the Lord is? (Eph. 5:17) *So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*
* Please the Lord during this time and the circumstances at hand. (Col. 1:10) *so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;*
* Give thanks in everything! (1 Thess. 4:3) *For this is the will of God, your sanctification…*

1. Benefits of Endurance (Heb. 10:36, Rom. 8:28, Rom. 5:3-4, Heb. 10:35)

* God is trying to make us more like Christ; troubles bring endurance and this builds character. (Rom. 5:3-4*)* ***3****And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;****4****and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;*
* Christians endure for the blessings from God, we gain HOPE. (Heb. 10:35) *Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.*

**DAILY USE:**

1. Give thanks for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.
2. Patient endurance in all things pleases God.
3. Think deeply about the endurance of the Lord Jesus Christ.