

## Patience

**We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly [undisciplined], encourage [comfort] the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.** (I Thessalonians 5:14)

Sometimes things, or mostly people, drive us crazy. How should we deal with that feeling? Well, God is exceedingly patient with His children as we often disobey Him and live according to sin. That is because He loves us and considers us to be righteous in Christ (Romans 8:10; II Corinthians 5:21).

God demonstrated His love and patience by saving Paul, who was Christ's leading enemy (I Timothy 1:15-16). Later, Paul instructed Timothy to teach the word of God with great patience and instruction (II Timothy 4:1-5). He understood that patience of spirit is better than arrogance of spirit (Ecclesiastes 7:8).

Furthermore, because God and our Lord Jesus Christ demonstrated (and continue to demonstrate) their patience toward us, we should:

- Be patient with our fellow brethren in love (I Corinthians 13:4; Ephesians 4:1-3).
- Be patient with everyone (I Thessalonians 5:14).
- Put on a heart of gentleness with patience, bearing with one another and forgiving each other (Colossians 3:12-13).
- Patiently endure suffering that results from doing the right thing (I Peter 2:20).

**So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.**  
(Colossians 3:12-13)