

FREE AT LAST! THE MESSAGE OF GALATIANS
March 18, 2010

The Fruitful Gospel: Patience – Galatians 5:16-26

5:22

I. Patience is essential.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is...patience...”

cf. Gal. 5:16, 21, 24

Patience = “manifesting forbearance under provocation or strain.” Webster

A. to our relationship with God.

cf. Romans 12:12

Augustine: “Patience is the companion of wisdom.”

B. to our relationships with others.

cf. Prov. 15:18; Eph. 4:2; I Thess. 5:14; II Tim. 4:2; Matt. 18:21-35

C. to our relationship with the world.

cf. Prov. 14:29; 16:32

Adlai Stevenson: “A wise man does not try to hurry history. Many wars have been avoided by patience, and many have been precipitated by reckless haste.”

Edmund Burke: “Our patience will achieve more than our force.”

Hudson Taylor: “There are three indispensable requirements of a missionary: patience, patience, patience.”

II. Patience comes from God.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is...patience...”

cf. Ex. 34:6; Romans 2:4; 9:22; I Tim. 1:16; II Pet. 3:9, 15

III. Patience grows through trials.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is...patience...”

A. Trial of affliction

cf. Job 13:15; Romans 5:3-5

B. Trial of opposition

cf. Rev. 1:9; 13:10; 14:12

John Q. Adams: “Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish.”

C. Trial of waiting

cf. Romans 12:12; Hebrews 11:8-12; James 5:7-11

Somebody: “Hope is the mother of patience.”