

"But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." James 1:4 KJV

We often find ourselves lacking a plethora of determination, strength, wisdom, and other needs with no seeming hope, but patience is the key to acquisition! *"They that WAIT upon the LORD shall renew their strength."* There are conditions to God's help. I must obey: *"If I regard INIQUITY in my heart, the Lord will not hear me."* It must be a need not a want: *"My God shall supply all your NEEDS."* You must ask: *"Ye have not because ye ASK not."* You must believe God: *"Ask in faith, BELIEVING."* You must wait with obedient patience: *"WAIT I say on the LORD. Be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith (obedience) and PATIENCE inherit the promises. Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward."* You must ask according to His revealed will. *"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have Eternal Life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. And THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE that we have in Him, that, IF WE ASK ANY THING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, He heareth us."* What we ask may not be God's will. Even Christ prayed, *"Not my will but Thine."* The Promise comes AFTER patient obedience. *"For ye have need of PATIENCE, that, AFTER ye have done the will of God (obeyed), ye might receive the Promise. The trying of your faith worketh PATIENCE. Let us run with PATIENCE the race that is set before us."* Unpliable clay is discarded. The more pliable the clay, the more beautiful its form when the potter molds it. God's Word plies our soul via obedience to increase our faith. The clay is worthless until fired. Faith is tried to increase its worth. *"When He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. The trial of...faith, being much more precious than of gold...though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ."* The greater our faith, the greater our obedience, patience, and perfection. The impatient have little faith, and the willful child is seldom obedient! *"In EVERYTHING give thanks."* Faith is obedient and thankful before it receives!



My faith procures my patient wait,
It trusts my God will not be late,
He'll always give what e'er I need,
If I obey in word and deed. ~CGP

Are we saved by our own effort? God's Word, Jesus Christ, is the vehicle of saving faith! *"Faith cometh by...the Word of God."* Did Mom ever ask, "Did you hear what I said?!" You may have heard her the first time, but you knew full well that she meant, "You better start obeying!" That's exactly what it means to "hear" God's Word. Study, meditation, and obedience are the source of faith, patience, and perfection! God's promises are sure to the faithful. Are you patiently waiting in obedience? Then it is sure!

"Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? There is no searching of His understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isaiah 40:28-31 KJV