

WALKING WITH JESUS, PATIENTLY

2 Peter 3:8-15a

December 7, 2019

Are we there yet?

How many of us have used or heard this phrase?

When was the last time you checked the time—on your phone or computer or even the old-fashioned way on your watch or a clock—and only a few minutes had passed since the last time you checked?

When you pray, do you expect an immediate answer? Or maybe you're in a generous mood so you give God a couple of days to answer and then become frustrated because he hasn't accommodated your timeline.

Time is relative. Patience is a virtue. Where have you heard that before? Well it is a virtue and Paul lists it as one of the fruits of the Spirit. Let's face it most of the time we are all learning lessons of patience.

Jesus was the epitome of patience. As Jesus walked this earth, preaching and teaching, he was constantly demonstrating patience. Think about how Jesus demonstrated extreme patience when he was in the desert being tempted by the devil. How many times did Jesus teach a lesson only to have to explain it to his disciples? Patience. How many times did the Pharisees or Sadducees ask him questions trying to trap him with his answers? Patience. How many times did the crowds swarm him for healing and help? Patience.

Today's Scripture is a lesson in patience. God works in God's time. Our God is gracious. Our Lord Jesus Christ offers us salvation. Yes, the second coming of Christ is near and it will happen in the wink of an eye. Our patience grows when we are in action and not "clock-watching." So my friends, be prepared to spend eternity with our Lord Jesus Christ, by growing in patience and GO! Go and make disciples of Jesus Christ. Go and help others praying for them to have a change of heart and lives. Go and teach others to distinguish between righteous actions and wicked actions. Go!

Prayer: Gracious and Loving God, Your grace abounds and covers us when we ask, "Are we there yet?" Develop our patience as we GO into this world to do your work. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

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