

Establish Your Hearts

November 9, 2017

James 5:7-11 ESV

7 **Be patient**, therefore, brothers, **until the coming of the Lord**. See how **the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient** about it, until it receives the early and the late rains.

8 **You also, be patient** (*makrothymeō*). **ESTABLISH YOUR HEARTS**, for **the coming of the Lord is at hand**.

9 Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, **the Judge is standing at the door**.

10 As **an example of suffering and patience**, brothers, **take the prophets** who spoke in the name of the Lord.

11 Behold, **we consider those blessed who remained steadfast**. You have **heard of the steadfastness of Job**, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

THE SUFFERING IN THIS LIFE WE ARE TO ENDURE

- **SUFFERING FROM OUR FLESH**
 - Temptation and Sin
 - Mortality
- **SUFFERING FROM THIS WORLD SYSTEM**
 - Persecution
 - Tribulation
 - Cares of the World
- **SUFFERING FROM SATAN'S KINGDOM**
 - Adversity
 - Deception (battle for the mind)
 - Temptation
 - Oppression and Fear
 - Guilt and Condemnation

ESTABLISH YOUR HEARTS

James 5:8 ESV

8 **You also, be patient**. **ESTABLISH** (*stērizō* - make stable, render constant, fix, place firmly, set fast, strengthen) **YOUR HEARTS**, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

Proverbs 4:20-27 ESV

20 **My son, be attentive** (*qashab* - to prick up the ears, attend to, give heed, mark well, pay attention) **to my words; incline** (*natah* - stretch out, extend, spread out, incline, bend) **your ear to my sayings**.

21 **Let them not escape** (*luwz - turn aside, lost from view, depart*) **from your sight; keep them within** (*tavek - midst, middle, between*) **your heart.**

22 **For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh.**

Hebrews 2:1-3 ESV

1 Therefore **we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.**

2 For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution,

3 **how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?**

Psalms 1:1-3 ESV

1 Blessed is the man who **walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;**

2 **but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.**

3 He is like **a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.**

GUARD YOUR HEARTS

Proverbs 4:23 ESV

23 **Keep** (*natsar - guard, watch over, preserve, observe, keep*) **your heart with all vigilance** (*mishmar - a prison, jail, guard post, guard-house, place of confinement, to guard*), **for from it flow the springs of life.**

- **Know your enemy.**

Ephesians 6:11 ESV

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against **the schemes** (*methodeia - method, strategy, plan, device, lie in wait*) **of the devil.**

2 Corinthians 2:11 ESV

11 so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for **we are not ignorant of his designs.**

- **Know your vulnerabilities.**

Proverbs 22:3 CSB

3 A sensible person **sees danger and takes cover, but the inexperienced keep going and are punished.**

Galatians 2:11-13 ESV

11 But when Cephas (Aramaic for Peter) came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.

12 For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but **when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party.**

13 And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.

Psalm 19:12-13 NLT

12 How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults.

13 Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.

Psalm 19:12-13 CSB

12 Who perceives his unintentional sins? Cleanse me from my hidden faults.

13 Moreover, keep your servant from willful sins; do not let them rule me. Then I will be blameless and cleansed from blatant rebellion.

Matthew 6:13 ESV

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

- **Know your condition.**

2 Corinthians 1:8-10 ESV

8 For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself.

9 Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead.

10 He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.

EXAMINE YOUR SPEECH

Proverbs 4:20-27 ESV

24 **Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious (lězuwth - deviation, perversity) talk far from you.**

Matthew 15:17-20 ESV

17 Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled?

18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person.

19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

20 These are what defile a person. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone."

EXAMINE YOUR FOCUS

Proverbs 4:20-27 ESV

25 **Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you.**

Hebrews 12:1-2 ESV

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

EXAMINE YOUR ACTIONS

Proverbs 4:20-27 ESV

26 **Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure.**

27 **Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.**

1 Corinthians 11:29-32 ESV

29 **For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.**

30 **That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.**

31 **But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged.**

32 **But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.**