

▼ **Wait For The Lord To Show Up!**

Rocklyn Clarke Sr. - Sunday February 22, 2015

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- **Read the Passage: James 5:7-12**

▼ **Purpose of the Sermon (what listeners should do)**

- See the big picture.
- Recognize God's compassion and mercy.
- Practice patience

▼ **See the big picture.**

- The previous passages (especially James 5:1-6) describe the situation of people under pressure who are looking for relief.

▼ **Jesus will come to fix everything, but we need to wait for this patiently.**

- Parousia = official presence.
- Coming (παρουσία Gk "parousia")
- An official delegation was sent out to meet the emperor on the way.
- A delegation from Rome ventured out to meet Paul on the way. - Acts 28:12-16
- Grumbling and swearing are not demonstrations of patience.

▼ **Recognize God's compassion and mercy.**

- Waiting patiently requires trust. We can trust because God is full of compassion and mercy.
- Consider Job.

▼ **Practice patience**

- Patience: fruit of the Spirit - Galatians 5:22-23
- Don't swear - Matthew 5:33-37
- If we don't wait patiently, we will misrepresent the Lord to the outside world.
- God's agenda is at stake.
- Patience doesn't mean doing nothing (see the next passage)!

▼ **Discussion Questions & Topics**

- Are you under pressure? Do you need to wait patiently? Discuss.
- How does the big picture apply to your situation? What about God's compassion and mercy?
- In what ways can you practice patience this week?

▼ **What we're reading and why we're reading it.**

- We're reading the New Testament in chronological order (the order in which the books were probably written) rather than canon order (the order in which they appear in the Bible).
- This will help us to understand the good news of God's Kingdom and how it spreads.

▼ **The Gospels**

- The events related in the gospels took place around 30 A.D.
- The gospels themselves were not written down until several years after Galatians and James.
- The gospels describe the initial announcement of God's Kingdom by Jesus and his death, burial, and resurrection through which he was established as the world's Lord.

▼ **Acts**

- Covers period from Jesus' resurrection (30 A.D.) through its establishment in Rome (63 A.D.).
- So far we are dealing with the church as it was at about Acts 15.

▼ **Galatians - written A.D. 49 (contemporaneously with Acts 14 - 15)**

- The churches in Galatia were composed mostly of gentiles (i.e. non-Jews) who had responded to the proclamation of the gospel by Paul and others.
- Judaizers told the gentiles to become Jews first in order to follow Jesus.
- Paul teaches them to put their faith in Christ and not the law.

▼ **James - written A.D. 50 (contemporaneously with Acts 14 - 15)**

- Many of the Jewish believers had been scattered through Judea and Samaria as a result of the persecution described in Acts 8:1-3.
- James wrote to help correct some misunderstandings about salvation by faith and to give them guidance about living under pressure.