

Patience

*"To those who by patience in well-doing
seek for glory and honor and immortality
he will give eternal life" (Romans 2:7)*



*"I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I
drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." (Matthew 26:29)*



The Berean Lamp
For the Body of Christ.

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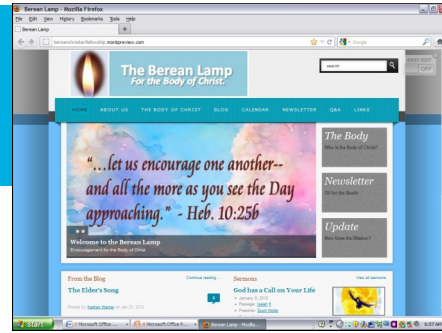
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The Berean Lamp Ministry seeks to:

1. Encourage and strengthen the Body of Christ by providing the means for each of its members to share their spiritual gifts with one another, rooted in the Word of God, thereby growing into deeper union with one another and with Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-31).
2. Minister to non-believers; be a witness for Christ and a testament to His Body in the world.

We would appreciate your help in contributing to the content and in spreading the work of this ministry. Thank you, and God bless.

- Pastor Scott Moller





Waiting on the Lord

By Scott Moller

"I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry." Psalm 40:1 (NIV)

As the old saying goes "Patience is a Virtue." How quaint and outdated this seems in our fast-food world of instant gratification: a world where it seems no one is expected to wait for anything including material possessions, happiness, love, health, etc. But as we study the Scriptures we learn that God does not operate on man's time schedule but on His perfect timing.

There are many Biblical examples of this, but two that come to my mind are Abraham and King David. These two men received very specific promises from God. Abraham, who was childless, was promised that he would have a son miraculously provided by God. God made this promise to Abraham when he was 75 years old, and his wife, Sarah, was already past childbearing age. Abraham and Sarah waited as the years passed to the point it seemed God had forgotten His promise. How their hope must have dimmed as time just marched on, but God had not forsaken them. When Abraham was 100 years old, God fulfilled his promise and gave them their son, Isaac.

David, on the other hand, was a young boy of perhaps 12 years of age when he received his promise from God. God sent the prophet Samuel to David's home to anoint a future King of Israel. David was so young and unimportant that even his own father forgot about him, yet God directed Samuel to anoint him King. Samuel went home after David was anointed, and David went back to herding sheep. Nothing changed while the years began to pass by. David grew up and was called into

the service of King Saul. As he was faithfully serving Saul, Saul became jealous of David, and David was forced to flee for his life, living on the run for years. Twice David had opportunities to kill Saul and yet he did not take matters into his own hands. David was in training to put his trust fully in God's hands. Eventually, when David was 30 years old, Saul was killed in a battle, and David did become King of Israel.

We too, as Christians, have received great promises from God. God's many promises to us include eternal life, adoption into the family of God, future rewards, resurrection, heaven, and the return of Christ. Most of God's promises to believers are for the life to come and are eternal. Sadly, many Christians see God as a ticket to a life of ease and comfort rather than a source of strength through the trials of life. Christ tells us in John 15:19 that *"I have chosen you **out** of the world."* Paul reminds us in 1 Timothy 6:7, *"For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it."* God wants us to patiently wait on Him with our eyes fixed on eternity.

A good example of this is Jesus' promise of His return. Jesus specifically promised in John 14:3, *"I will come back and take you to be with me..."* He also warned us in Matthew 24:42 to *"therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come."* Peter also warned us in 2 Peter 2 that in the last days, scoffers and mockers would come casting doubt on Christ's promised return. Peter goes on to explain in chapter 3, verse 9 that *"the Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."*

Let us not limit God to temporal blessings that will pass away or lose patience in the fulfillment of His promises to us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, looking to that blessed hope, so that He may find us faithful.

Editor-in-Chief: Nathan Warner

Oversight Committee: Pastor Scott Moller, Deacon Bob Larsen, Nathan Warner

Editors: Natalie Madsen, Jani Warner, Julie Moller

The Christian

*The Christian is a person
who had hardness of heart.
From the things of this world,
he would not depart....*

*Until his vanity
was finally exposed.
A hardened heart?
Yeah, I had one of those.*

*The Christian is a person
who thought he knew...
but he knew nothing...
he was born anew.*

*The Christian is a person
whose sorrow wasn't deep...
He now knows godly sorrow
as one of Christ's sheep.*

*The Christian is a person
who endures much grief...
not worldly sorrow,
but over the world's unbelief.*

*The Christian is a person
forgiven of much....
by a holy God
who sees him as such.*

*The Christian has sinned,
just like you.
You can't be a Christian...
unless you've sinned too.*

By Jesse Larsen

1 Thessalonians 2:13

“And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.”

Patience for Eternity

By Nathan Warner

Eternal – “without beginning or end; lasting forever; always existing (opposed to temporal): eternal life.”

Temporal – “of or pertaining to time.” (Dictionary.com)

Our world today worships instant gratification, and we are conditioned to despise patience. We want faster internet speeds, quicker checkout lanes, and up-to-the-second news. We eat “fast-food,” and we Facebook and Twitter so everyone knows what we are doing the very moment we are doing it. We hardly ever have to wait for food or fruit to come in season anymore – it’s available all year round, whenever we want it.

One way the world conditions us is through advertising. Advertising is the voice of the world, appealing to our flesh. Have you ever noticed that advertising never says, “Wait for it, because it’s worth it”? Ads are almost always about getting something faster with less effort, indulging whenever you feel like it, and always getting what you want when you want it. The transmission of our culture seems stuck accelerating faster and faster to get what it wants, and woe betide anyone trying to inconvenience them with the misery of patience. And why not? After all, time is running out, and we only live once...or do we?

Yet, patience is a critical quality of a Believer’s life, and Scripture is filled with examples of patience in Believers’ lives (Noah, Abraham, Moses, Hannah...the list goes on and on). The Word of God calls Believers to patience in this epic spiritual struggle that we call life.

Patience only exists because of time. Time governs our mortal existence here in the world. Without time, there would be no need for patience. God is not governed by His creation of time, as He is immortal: “*To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen*” (1

Timothy 1:17). He is also eternal: “*The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms*” (Deuteronomy 33:27).

We, however, are governed by time in this world, and we have a tendency to never be entirely happy with the time we’re in. We often wish time would speed up or slow down. Many parents wish their kids would stay their little children forever, just as many children want to be grown up already. And then there’s that elephant in the mirror we call aging. People are starting to talk about aging as a “disease” that must be cured. “Can’t we just stay young and live forever?” is the question many people are asking science.

Do you want to live forever? In this world? Think for a moment about living in this world governed by sin for eternity with its endless cycles of peace and war, gentleness and violence, plenty and famine, pleasure and pain, health and disease, restoration and decay. I’ve often thought what a “hell” it would be to be trapped here in the World for all time. What a blessing then that we pass on in death to an Eternal Life in a New Heaven and a New Earth that escapes the cycles of sin which have governed our planet since the Fall: “*And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.’ And he who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ And he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with*

fire and sulfur, which is the second death” (Revelation 21:3-8).

Amazing! We as Believers have an immortal eternity with God as our inheritance. So, why on earth do we have to wait for it? Why can't we just have it now, since we've made our decision to follow Christ?

Patience is a sign of commitment tested by time. Patience proves we understand the value of something. When we wait for something we value, we struggle against temptations to abandon it when the going gets tough to seek a quicker or easier solution. Patience must struggle against doubt and confusion. “Is this really what I should be doing with my time?” “Is this really worth my time and effort?” “When will I receive what I am waiting for?” Jesus taught us in the Parable of the Sower what can happen to those who do not patiently wait for His Eternal Inheritance: “*‘As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful’*” (Matthew 13:20-22). True Believers should be like the good soil: “*As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty*” (Matthew 13:23). It takes patient commitment to tend a seed properly until it bears fruit.

As Believers, we are instructed by Paul to engage in Communion as a proclamation of the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26). Communion is a testament not only to Christ's sacrifice but also to patient endurance for an Eternity with Him when He returns for us: “***I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom***” (Matthew 26:29). Jesus was promising to wait until we are with Him in His Father's

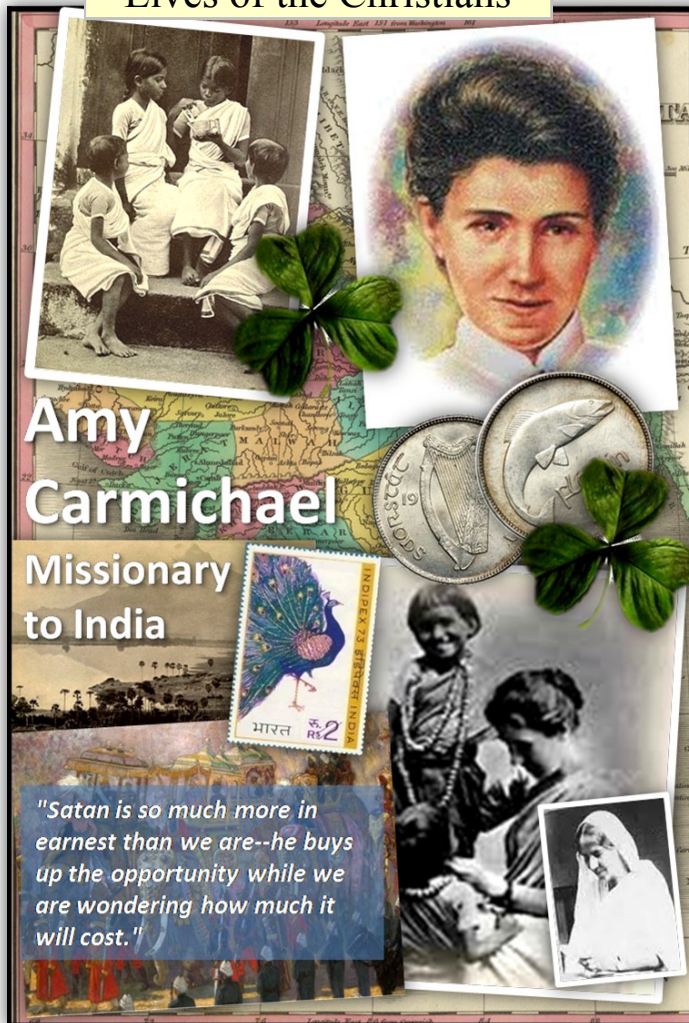
Kingdom before He will take Communion with us again. Taking Communion as Believers is a memorial of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross, a testament of our patient commitment to Him, and a firm, fixed gaze ahead to the Glory of Christ's reign in the New Heavens and the New Earth that we are patiently waiting for. “*To those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life*” (Romans 2:7), “*for in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*” (2 Peter 1:11).

A poet once said, “Time is the Fire in which we burn.”¹ In many ways, this is true. Time refines those of us who patiently seek for the precious stones of immortality and the silver and gold of God's glory, which we will not witness in this world, while it devours those who seek prefab or easy build-it-yourself monuments of spiritual hay, wood, and stubble for self-glory in this world. Those who live only for the temporal, mortal flesh are already dead by God's eternal standards unless they repent. “*If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned*” (John 15:6).

“*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*”
(1 Peter 1:3-7)

¹“Calmly We Walk Through This April Day” (poem)

Lives of the Christians



Amy Carmichael

Missionary to India

"Missionary Life is simply a chance to die."
- Amy Carmichael

Amy Carmichael was born in County Down, Ireland, in 1867 to Presbyterian parents. Her father died when she was 18, and she began mission work with local girls who worked in the mills, witnessing Jesus. After a while, Amy felt her Lord calling her to missionary work, and she set sail for Japan, leaving all her friends and family behind, but the climate there affected her weak health, and after 15 months, she left for Sri Lanka and India. As she began spreading the gospel among the Indians, she uncovered the dark side of the Hindu religion - forced prostitution of young girls and infants who had been dedicated to Hindu temples. Her indignation rose to higher heights when she learned that neither the British Government nor her fellow missionaries would intervene to save these girls while the Hindu religion was being "white-washed" and promoted in the west. Amy formed the Dahnnavur Fellowship to rescue children dedicated to the Hindu gods. Her ministry began with a temple run-away named Preena and grew to be a refuge for over 1,000 children, leading many to Christ. In 1931, Carmichael injured her foot badly, leaving her mostly bed-ridden until her death in 1951. This was the hardest trial of her life, and she struggled to find meaning in the daily pain and loss of freedom, but she continued to minister, counsel, and encourage, finding comfort in her Lord's example. Amy turned her energy to writing, and she published more than 16 books on missionary work in India, patience, endurance, pain, and hope. She served in India for 55 years without furlough and is buried at her mission. A birdbath marks her grave with the inscription *Amma*, meaning "Mother."

The Patience of Fellowship

By Bob Larsen

Sometimes, we may have trials, problems, and tribulations that require a great deal of patience to overcome. Sometimes, those trials may come through those who are close to us and who are people we consider to be believers. I have recently been in contact with people who are reeling from abusive treatment and painful experiences that were caused by some who claim to be believers, including some who claim to be ministers of the gospel. Often in this life, we endure a great deal of pain, and we struggle with temptations to be bitter about it, but we should remember to keep our struggles in the perspective of the Word of God, or we can so easily lose our footing.

Let us consider what fellow believer Paul endured when he recounts his own struggles in 2 Corinthians 11:26: *"I have been on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren...."* All of these things, including the "false brethren," did not deter Paul from continuing on with Jesus. Jesus did tell us that we would have *"tribulation in this world"* (John 16:33). We expect persecution from those who do not claim to know Him, but it is so much more painful when the tribulation comes from those claiming to be believers. Keep in mind, though, Jesus is still perfect, and He is still willing to live in our hearts and provide us with love, joy, peace,

forgiveness, and all the many other things that are benefits of the Christian life. If our trials in life come as a result of abuse by someone who claims to be a believer or someone who is family, we need to let persecution draw us into a closer relationship with Jesus rather than let it damage us. Trials are what make us grow.

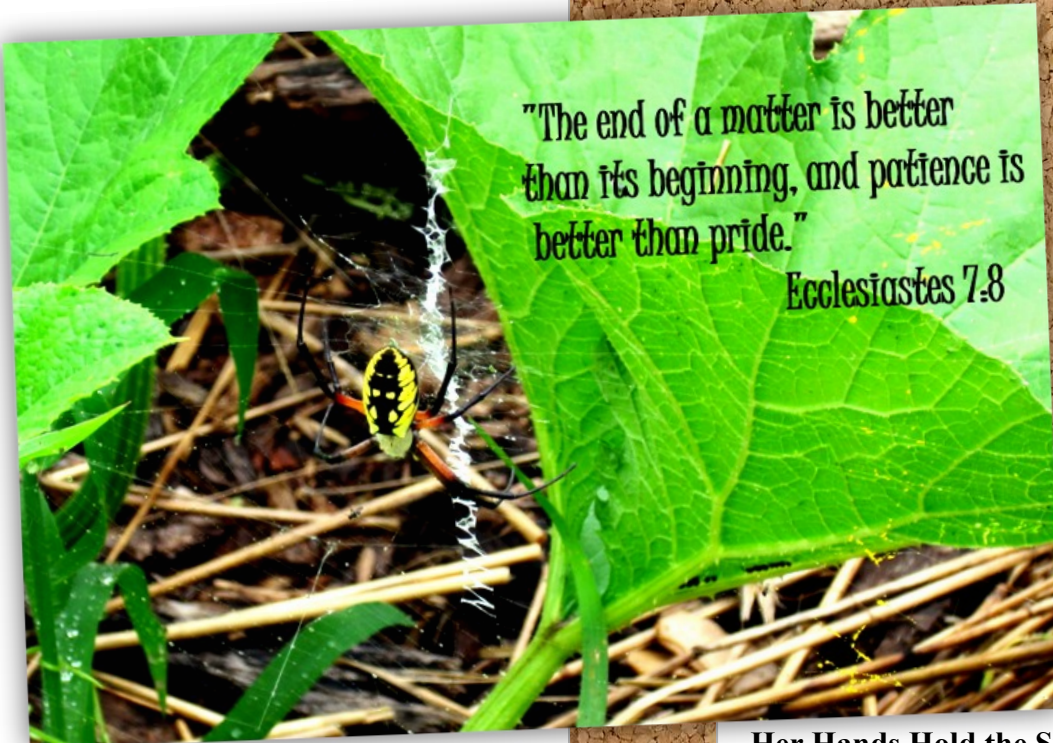
"We glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience" (Romans 5:3). I know that it is painful when those trials come through alleged brethren, but God uses all trials to bring us closer to Him. When we are going through any trial, we often are faced with a distinct choice: we can become bitter and drift away, or like Job, Paul, Peter, and so many others, we can patiently allow the trials to draw us to a closer relationship with God.

I am grieved when I find that some of my acquaintances are no longer in regular fellowship with other believers because they have been hurt by "false brethren." It is difficult to live a Christian life without the fellowship of the Body of Christ. Above all, we should keep in mind that we all go through trials. We need to patiently endure the trials as they work in our lives to bring us closer to the One who died for us and offers us the free gift of eternal life.



Light Above Darkness

By Nathan Warner



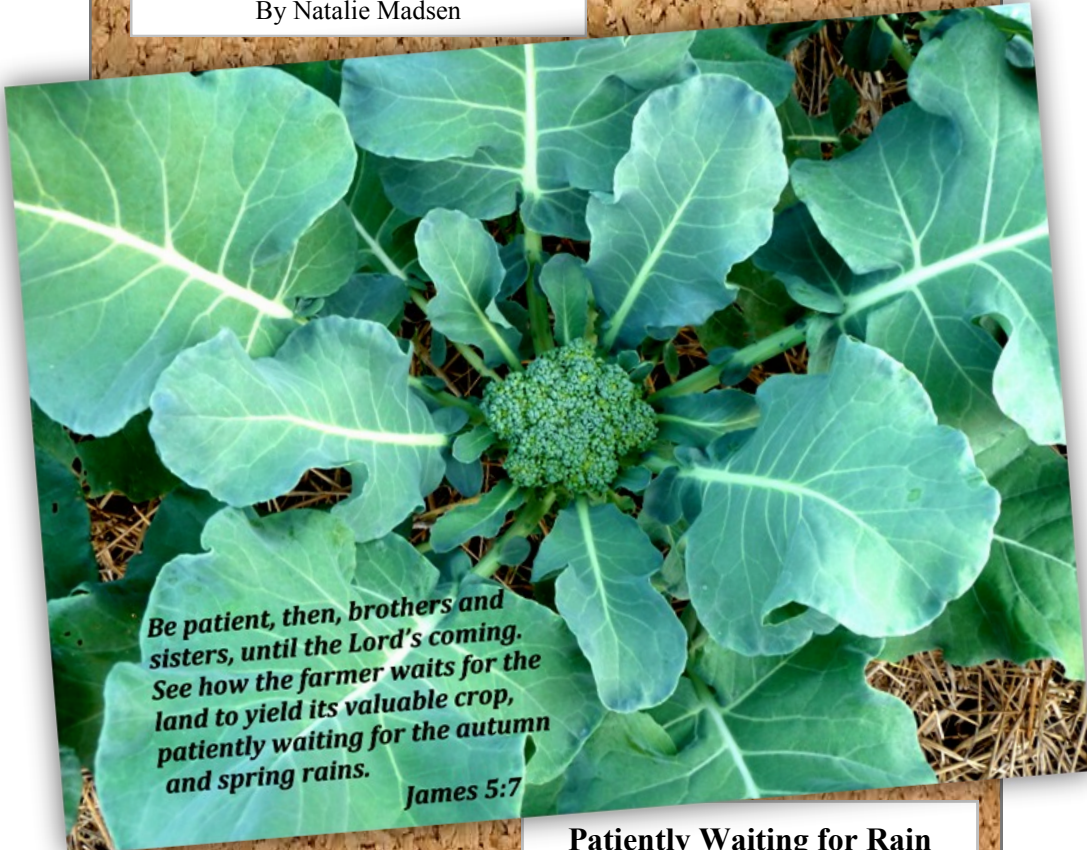
Her Hands Hold the Spindle

By Maria Madsen



Bear Fruit With Patience

By Natalie Madsen



Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains.

James 5:7

Patiently Waiting for Rain

By Kelly Madsen

ENGAGEMENT

It's a long, long engagement
Nearly two-thousand years.
No longer engagement
The earth knows of nears.

The Bridegroom has labored
His Light grown brighter.
He has waited so long
To love and delight her.

The Bride too has waited
As the day slowly nears
Not knowing the time
When her Lover appears.

The clouds are now parting
There's a glimmer in the east
The wicked departing
Their protests have ceased.

The lamps have been lit now
In the heavens' dark sea
The Virgins will bear them
To the beautiful Tree.

Starlight in its bowers
The Bridegroom waits beside
The avenue of flowers
The Stream at His side.

Here too is bloodshed
From deep painful wounds
That purchased from cowards
His Wife from their tombs.

Here she stands beside Him
Radiant with Joy
She's walked in His Light
Though darkness annoy.

Oh, glorious delight!
The Love in His eyes!
That conquered all death—
The darkness that dies!

"Oh, my merciful Lord!
Oh, my wonderful King!
The Heavens declare you
And everything sings!"

"Oh, my beloved Bride!
Oh, my beautiful Wife!
Let us go to the fields
Of My eternal Life."

By Nathan Warner

"To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the **tree of life**, which is in the paradise of God." (Revelation 2:7b)

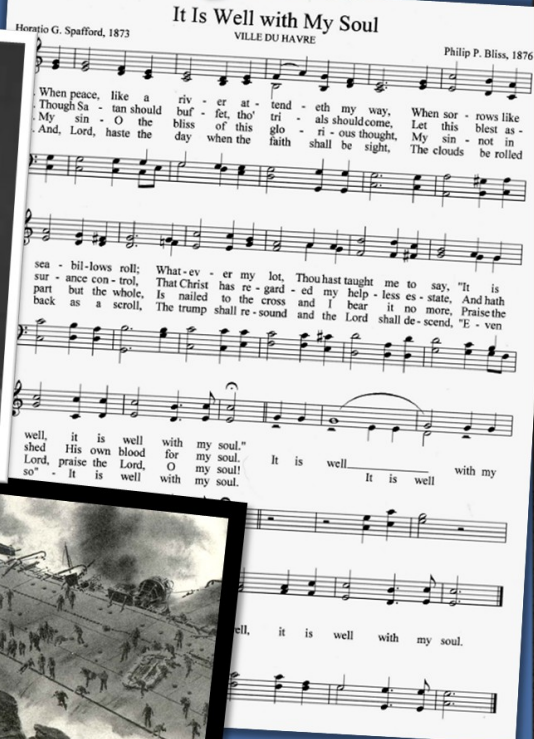
"Let us rejoice and exult and give Him the glory, for the **marriage** of the Lamb has come, and His Bride has made herself ready..." (Revelation 19:7)

Sing A New Song

Words by Horatio Spafford

Music by Philip Bliss

When peace like a river,
 Attendeth my way,
 When sorrows like sea billows roll;
 Whatever my lot,
 Thou hast taught me to say, It is well,
 it is well, with my soul.



It Is Well With My Soul

By Maggie Moller

Author

Horatio Gates Spafford was born October 20, 1828, in North Troy, New York. He married his bride, Anna, in 1861 and moved to Chicago where he became a very successful businessman and lawyer. When the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 burned the city to the ground, Horatio lost all his real estate holdings along Lake Michigan. Immediately, he set to work helping rebuild the city and assisting the many left homeless.

In 1873, he decided to take his wife and four daughters on a vacation to Europe to see his friend D.L. Moody at one of his revival meetings. Unexpected business came up that prevented Horatio from leaving on their set departure date. Not wanting to hold up his

family, he sent them on ahead, promising to meet up with them in Europe. His family set out across the Atlantic on the *S.S. Ville du Havre* passenger liner. Tragically, on the night of November 22, the *S.S. Ville du Havre* collided with the *Lock Earn*, an English vessel, and sank within 12 minutes. Of the 273 passengers, only 47 survived. Horatio's wife Anna was found nearly unconscious, clinging to a piece of wreckage, but none of their four daughters survived. When Anna reached Wales, she sent this message home: "Saved alone, what shall I do?"

Filled with grief, Horatio set out at once to meet his wife. During the journey, the captain of the ship Horatio had boarded pointed out the location where he believed the *S.S. Ville du Havre* went down. Horatio returned to his cabin and wrote, "It is well; the will of God be done." Later, he wrote the beautiful hymn, "It Is Well With My Soul," based on these words.

After the shipwreck, Horatio and Anna had

two more daughters, and in 1881, the family moved to Jerusalem. There Horatio helped start a mission called the "American Colony," which served the sick and destitute. Four days before his 60th birthday, Horatio died of malaria in Jerusalem on October 16, 1888, and was buried at Mount Zion Cemetery outside the walls of the Old City.

Composer

Philip Paul Bliss was born on July 9, 1838, in Clearfield County, Pennsylvania. His first introduction to music came from his father, Isaac, who loved music and taught young Philip to sing. Part of his early education also came from his mother, who taught him to read and write. At age eleven, he left home to make a living for himself and worked at lumber camps and sawmills while attending school. He was raised in a Christian family and made a personal confession of faith in Christ at age twelve. During this time, Philip spent some of his savings on music lessons and began to participate in Methodist camp meetings and revival services.

When he turned seventeen, he completed the requirements for a teaching license and began teaching at a school in Hartsville, New York. In 1857, he met J.G. Tower, who owned a vocal school in Pennsylvania. Tower recognized Philip's rare singing talent and provided him with formal vocal training. When attending a musical convention, Philip also met William Bradbury, a composer of sacred music who encouraged Philip to use his talents for the Lord's service.

Around this time, Philip met Lucy Young, a poet from a musical family, and the two were soon married. To increase his income, Philip began taking in music students, but though he enjoyed teaching, he realized the limitations of his training. Lucy's grandmother graciously provided him with the thirty dollars needed to attend the Normal Academy of Music in New York. After his training, Philip began working as a professional music instructor and began composing music. One evening, he decided to attend a local revival meeting led by D.L.

Moody. During the singing, Philip's voice stood out, and Moody approached him about becoming a singing evangelist.

Philip began to use his talents solely for the service of the Lord by writing only gospel hymns, including the music for "It Is Well With My Soul." Rather than use his profits for himself, he declined all copyright royalties and distributed the money, totaling nearly \$60,000, to charities.

In December 1876, Philip and his wife were traveling on a train near Ashtabula, Ohio. The train was traveling over a bridge when the bridge collapsed. Although Philip survived the initial crash, he went back into the flames and perished in an unsuccessful attempt to save his wife.

The stories of these two men may seem very tragic to us, and by earthly standards they are indeed very much so. How then can we be encouraged by learning about their lives? Although these two men had many reasons in their lives to give up hope and turn to despair, they were able to press on in Christ because they knew that this life is only for a time while heaven is for eternity. I hope the history of "It Is Well With My Soul" has encouraged you to also press on, even when life seems overwhelmingly difficult at times. We have Christ living in our hearts to guide us, encourage us, and lift us up. When we see life through this perspective, we can truly say, "It is well with my soul!" just as Mr. Spafford and Mr. Bliss did so many years ago.

The Patience of Christ

By Ginny Larsen

Is there anything greater than the patience of Christ? His patience is like His love. It is part of His love, out of His love, because of His love, and by His love. The patience of Christ endured the world when He left behind His glory in Heaven, came to earth in the form of a man, and took on the weakness of a body of flesh. This patience included living among a sinful people, though He Himself knew no sin and was perfect. It included being rejected, scorned, mistreated, abused, and finally killed by the very ones He created and came to save. It included a longing for His Father's Will and waiting patiently for all to be fulfilled, giving Himself over to His Father's will, until the time was right for Him to be glorified once again. It includes His waiting now for the time His church can be taken up to be with Him where He is – to be with Him and share His glory forever!

Christ's patience is our patience here below. We are to receive and walk in His patience when we walk amidst an evil world that rejects and hates us because we name the name of Christ. We are to love those who hate us, pray for those who persecute us, and bless those who curse us. We are to endure the hardships of this life without complaining and even give thanks to God in the midst of them. Charles Spurgeon, in *The Treasury of David*, writes:

'I waited patiently for the Lord.' Patient waiting upon God was a special characteristic of our Lord Jesus. Impatience never lingered in his heart, much less escaped his lips. All through his agony in the garden, his trial of cruel mockings before Herod and Pilate, and his passion on the tree, he waited in omnipotence of patience. No glance of wrath, no word of murmuring, no deed of vengeance came from God's patient Lamb; he waited and waited on; was patient, and patient to perfection, far excelling all

others who have according to their measure glorified God in the fires. Job on the dunghill does not equal Jesus on the cross. The Christ of God wears the imperial crown among the patient. Did the Only Begotten wait, and shall we be petulant and rebellious? *'And he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.'* Neither Jesus the head, nor any one of the members of his body, shall ever wait upon the Lord in vain. Mark the figure of inclining, as though the suppliant cried out of the lowest depression, and condescending love stooped to hear his feeble moans. What a marvel is it that our Lord should have to cry as we do, and wait as we do, and should receive the Father's help after the same process of faith and pleading as must be gone through by ourselves! The Saviour's prayers among the midnight mountains and in Gethsemane expound this verse. The Son of David was brought very low, but he rose to victory; and here he teaches us how to conduct our conflicts so as to succeed after the same glorious pattern of triumph. Let us arm ourselves with the same mind; and panoplied in patience, armed with prayer, and girt with faith, let us maintain the Holy War. (Exposition on verse 1 of Psalm 40)

What do we have to lose with patience? Nothing! What do we have to gain by it? Everything! Because of the joy set before us and that now is living in us, we can be patient in all things. *"Because thou didst keep the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of trial, that hour which is to come upon the whole world, to try them that dwell upon the earth"* (Revelation 3:10).

The church that is without strength of its own in this world, the church that is keeping His Word, the church that is keeping His patience, waiting for Him—this is the church that He is coming for to remove from the hour of tribulation that will soon come on the whole habitable

world, to try those “dwelling on the earth” —“those who are of earth, earthy” (Rev 8:13). ‘Dwell’ implies that their home is earth, not heaven. — *Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown’s Commentary On the Whole Bible (Revelation 8:13)*

Can we be patient as He works out His will in our lives? Can we trust Him with all that comes to us and happens to us? Can we trust and be patient when we are being chastised? When we are being led in a direction that is not the direction we would have chosen for ourselves? When we are suffering? When we are waiting? When we are longing? Can we trust that even in the trials, sufferings, hardships, and waiting, that He is accomplishing His will? *“But if we hope for that which we see not, then do we with patience wait for it”* (Romans 8:25), *“and the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patience of Christ”* (2 Thessalonians 3:5).

I know I have a hard time being patient. It’s not a strong point in my character! But when I look at the patience of Christ and see the love behind it, it enables me to desire the same patience with love for Him. With our faith in His promises and His love that He has revealed to us, His patience soon gives us hope, endurance, and strength for today and tomorrow. It gives us a rest in our souls as we wait on Him, knowing that His purposes will be fulfilled, and all is in His care. *“Therefore let us also, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us”* (Hebrews 12:1), *“knowing that the proving of your faith worketh patience. And let patience have its perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, lacking in nothing”* (James 1:3-4).

Patience comes out of our knowledge and love of Christ. It comes from His love indwelling us. The more we know of Him, truly seeing Him, and the more His love fills us, the more patient we are in our own lives. The more we have faith in Him, His will for our

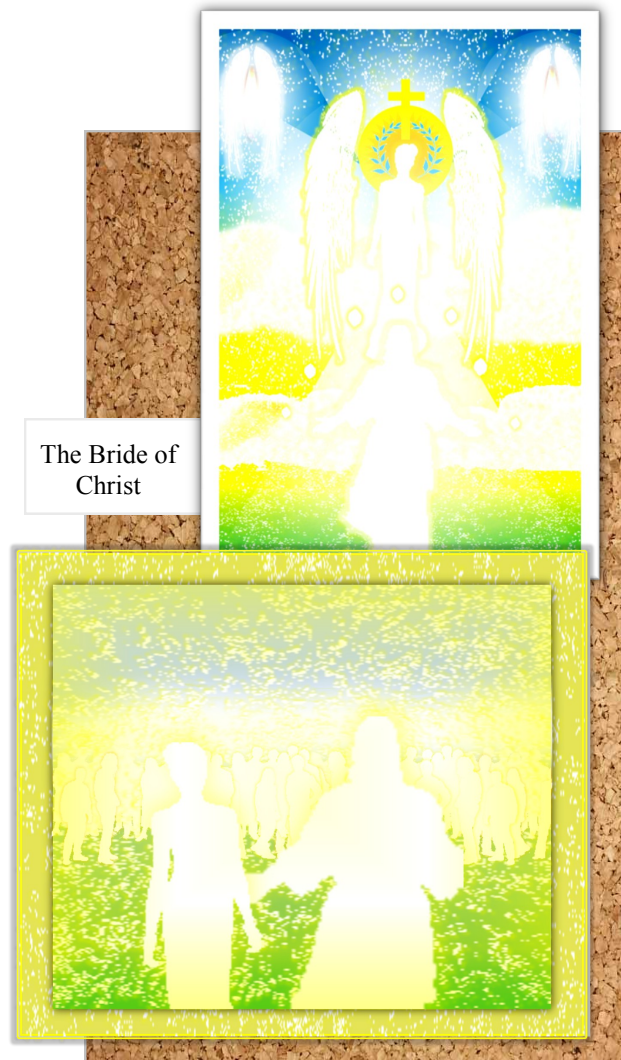
lives, and His goodness and love toward us, the more patient we can be, no matter what we go through. Patience involves suffering. It certainly did for Jesus! It will for us also. But in Christ it involves a hope that will not be disappointed!

“...Looking unto Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising shame, and hath sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”
(Hebrews 12:2)

“Patience is the fair handmaid and daughter of faith; we cheerfully wait when we are certain that we shall not wait in vain.”

-- Charles Spurgeon

The Bride of Christ



Hold Thou Me Up
Naomi Tvedt



*"Hold THOU me
up, and I shall be
SAFE."*

(Psalm 119:117a)

*"Rest in the
LORD, and wait
patiently for HIM:"*
(Psalm 37:7a)



Rest in the Lord
Caleb Tvedt

*"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience."
(Colossians 3:12)*



Patience in a Cold, Hard World
By Nathan Warner

*"As for that in the good soil,
they are those who, hearing the
WORD, hold it fast in an
honest and good heart, and
bear FRUIT with patience."
(Luke 8:15)*

October Newsletter Theme—Faith
Submission Deadline: October 7
Publish Date: October 14

Theme: Faith, Faith as a grain of mustard seed, purifying hearts by Faith, sanctified by Faith, justified by Faith, Faith counted for righteousness, Faith comes by hearing, walk by Faith - not sight, the Shield of Faith, Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen, unbelief, etc...