

Weapons Of Warfare

The Series Part 12

Patient Endurance

ROMANS 5:1-5 “Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (2) through whom we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of God’s glory. (3) Not only this, but we also rejoice in sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, (4) endurance, character, and character, hope. (5) And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”

The need for “Endurance” has never been greater. We must understand this battle of wills. Everything in this life, from the economy, entertainment, lust, and perversions, is all set up to wear down the saints- grinding us all down like glass. The entire matrix is set up to break your spirit and destroy your willingness to live for and serve the Lord. This weapon of “Endurance,” the perseverance of ones will over all obstacles and setbacks, is a moral killer for the devil. If you really want to give the devil heartburn, stay Obedient, Faithful, and Endure all things. Don’t allow him to knock you out of the battle. Stay in the fight and press on. Jesus said the harvest is ready, but the Laborers are few. Don’t allow the army of God to lose another soldier of the cross. Fight, fight and bleed, fight and die, but never stop fighting! Endure, persist, remain, and continue on in your love for God and His children.

The Bible Study “Escape From Babylon 22: ‘Once Saved, Always Saved?’” compliments this study well. And one would be wise to go and study that also.

KNOW YOUR ENEMY- KNOW HIS GOALS

DANIEL 7:23-25 “Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. (24) And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. (25) And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.”

MARK 4:16-17 “And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; (17) And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.”

REVELATION 2:4-5 “But I have this against you: You have departed from your first love! (5) Therefore, remember from what high state you have fallen and repent! Do the deeds you did at the first; if not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place – that is, if you do not repent.”

UNDERSTANDING THE PLOT

THIS MEANS WAR

I wanted to put these verses found in the Book of Revelation into one group. As we know, it holds prophecy concerning the church and what was to come to pass at the time it was written. I believe we can really unlock the plot doing this. We find a simple message repeated throughout the book.

X SATAN WISHES TO MAKE YOU BLEED TO DEATH.

REVELATION 13:4-8 “They worshiped the dragon, because he gave his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?” (5) A mouth speaking great things and blasphemy was given to him. Authority to make war for forty-two months was given to him. (6) He opened his mouth for blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his dwelling, those who dwell in heaven. (7) It was given to him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them. Authority over every tribe, people, language, and nation was given to him. (8) All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been killed.”

REVELATION 16:5-7 “I heard the angel of the waters saying, “You are righteous, who are and who were, O Holy One, because you have judged these things. (6) For they poured out the blood of saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink. They deserve this.” (7) I heard the altar saying, “Yes, Lord God, the Almighty, true and righteous are your judgments.”

REVELATION 17:5-6 “And on her forehead a name was written, “MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE PROSTITUTES AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.” (6) I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. When I saw her, I wondered with great amazement.”

REVELATION 18:24 “In her was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slain on the earth.”

✘ RESIST THE DEVIL AND ENDURE UNTIL THE END.

REVELATION 1:9 “I, John, your brother and the one who shares with you in the persecution, kingdom, and endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony about Jesus.”

REVELATION 2:2-3 “I know your works as well as your labor and steadfast endurance, and that you cannot tolerate evil. You have even put to the test those who refer to themselves as apostles (but are not), and have discovered that they are false. (3) I am also aware that you have persisted steadfastly, endured much for the sake of my name, and have not grown weary.”

REVELATION 2:19 “I know your deeds: your love, faith, service, and steadfast endurance. In fact, your more recent deeds are greater than your earlier ones.”

REVELATION 13:9-10 “If anyone has an ear, he had better listen! (10) If anyone is meant for captivity, into captivity he will go. If anyone is to be killed by the sword, then by the sword he must be killed. This requires steadfast endurance and faith from the saints.”

REVELATION 14:12-13 “This requires the steadfast endurance of the saints – those who obey God’s commandments and hold to their faith in Jesus. (13) Then I heard a voice from heaven say, “Write this: ‘Blessed are the dead, those who die in the Lord from this moment on!’” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “so they can rest from their hard work, because their deeds will follow them.”

✘ LUCIFER DOES NOT WANT YOU PRAYING (HERE’S WHY!)

REVELATION 5:6-10 “I saw in the middle of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the middle of the elders, a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, having seven horns, and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth. (7) Then he came, and he took it out of the right hand of him who sat on the throne. (8) Now when he had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. (9) They sang a new song, saying, “You are worthy to take the book, and to open its seals: for you were killed, and bought us for God with your blood, out of every tribe, language, people, and nation, (10) and made us kings and priests to our God, and we will reign on the earth.”

REVELATION 8:1-5 “When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. (2) I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. (3) Another angel came and stood over the altar, having a golden censer. Much incense was given to him, that he should add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne. (4) The smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel’s hand. (5) The angel took the censer, and he filled it with the fire of the altar, and threw it on the earth. Thunders, sounds, lightning’s, and an earthquake followed.”

✘ THAT EVIL SERPENT WANTS YOU TO GIVE UP YOUR REWARDS EARNED IN ENDURANCE.

REVELATION 11:16-19 “The twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones before God’s throne, fell on their faces and worshiped God, (17) saying: “We give you thanks, Lord God, the Almighty, the one who is and who was; because you have taken your great power, and reigned. (18) The nations were angry, and your wrath came, as did the time for the dead to be judged, **and to give your bondservants the prophets, their reward, as well as to the saints, and those who fear your name, to the small and the great;** and to destroy those who destroy the earth.” (19) God’s temple that is in heaven was opened, and the ark of the Lord’s covenant was seen in his temple. Lightnings, sounds, thunders, an earthquake, and great hail followed.”

REVELATION 19:7-9 “**Let’s rejoice and be exceedingly glad, and let’s give the glory to him.** For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his wife has made herself ready.” (8) It was given to her that she would array herself in bright, pure, fine linen: for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. (9) He said to me, “**Write, ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’**” He said to me, “**These are true words of God.**”

ENDURE TO RECEIVE SALVATION

MATTHEW 24:8-13 “But all these things are the beginning of birth pains. (9) Then they will deliver you up to oppression, and will kill you. You will be hated by all of the nations for my name’s sake. (10) Then many will stumble, and will deliver up one another, and will hate one another. (11) Many false prophets will arise, and will lead many astray. (12) Because iniquity will be multiplied, the love of many will grow cold. (13) **But he who endures to the end, the same will be saved.**”

MARK 13:10-13 “First the gospel must be preached to all nations. (11) When they arrest you and hand you over for trial, do not worry about what to speak. But say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit. (12) Brother will hand over brother to death, and a father his child. Children will rise against parents and have them put to death. (13) You will be hated by everyone because of my name. **But the one who endures to the end will be saved.**”

LUKE 21:16-19 “You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers, relatives, and friends, and they will have some of you put to death. (17) You will be hated by everyone because of my name. (18) Yet not a hair of your head will perish. (19) **By your endurance you will gain your lives.**”

LIVING AS A CHRISTIAN

JAMES 1:2-4 “My brothers and sisters, consider it nothing but joy when you fall into all sorts of trials, (3) because you know that **the testing of your faith produces endurance.** (4) And let endurance have its perfect effect, so that you will be perfect and complete, not deficient in anything.”

2 TIMOTHY 3:10-12 “You, however, have followed my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, my faith, my patience, my love, **my endurance**, (11) as well as the persecutions and sufferings that happened to me in Antioch, in Iconium, and in Lystra. I **endured these persecutions** and the Lord delivered me from them all. (12) **Now in fact all who want to live godly lives in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.**”

2 THESSALONIANS 1:4-5 “So that we ourselves boast about you in the assemblies of God **for your perseverance and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions which you endure.** (5) This is an obvious sign of the righteous judgment of God, **to the end that you may be counted worthy of God’s Kingdom, for which you also suffer.**”

2 TIMOTHY 2:1-3 “You therefore, my child, be strengthened in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. (2) The things which you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit the same to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. (3) **You therefore must endure hardship, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.**”

JAMES 5:10-11 “**As an example of suffering and patience**, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the Lord’s name. (11) **Think of how we regard as blessed those who have endured.** You have heard of **Job’s endurance and you have seen the Lord’s purpose**, that the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.”

1 PETER 2:15-21 “For God wants you to silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good. (16) Live as free people, not using your freedom as a pretext for evil, but as God’s slaves. (17) Honor all people, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the king. (18) Slaves, be subject to your masters with all reverence, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are perverse. (19) **For this finds God’s favor, if because of conscience toward God someone endures hardships in suffering unjustly.** (20) For what credit is it if you sin and are mistreated and endure it? **But if you do good and suffer and so endure, this finds favor with God.** (21) For to this you were called, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving an example for you to follow in his steps.”

1 TIMOTHY 6:11-12 “But you, as a person dedicated to God, keep away from all that. **Instead pursue righteousness, godliness, faithfulness, love, endurance, and gentleness.** (12) Compete well for the faith and lay hold of that eternal life you were called for and made your good confession for in the presence of many witnesses.”

ENDURING SUFFERING TO BETTER HELP THOSE WHO SUFFER

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-7 “Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, (4) **who comforts us in all our troubles so that we may be able to comfort those experiencing any trouble with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.** (5) For just as the sufferings of Christ overflow toward us, so also our comfort through Christ overflows to you. (6) **But if we are afflicted, it is**

for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort that you experience in your patient endurance of the same sufferings that we also suffer. (7)

And our hope for you is steadfast because we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you will share in our comfort.”

ENDURING HARSH DISCIPLINE OF GOD

🕒 THE PLEA OF DESPAIR & FOR HELP!

LAMENTATIONS 3:1-20 “I am the man who has experienced affliction from the rod of his wrath. (2) He drove me into captivity and made me walk in darkness and not light. (3) He repeatedly attacks me, he turns his hand against me all day long. (4) He has made my mortal skin waste away; he has broken my bones. (5) He has besieged and surrounded me with bitter hardship. (6) He has made me reside in deepest darkness like those who died long ago. (7) He has walled me in so that I cannot get out; he has weighted me down with heavy prison chains. (8) Also, when I cry out desperately for help, he has shut out my prayer. (9) He has blocked every road I take with a wall of hewn stones; he has made every path impassable. (10) To me he is like a bear lying in ambush, like a hidden lion stalking its prey. (11) He has obstructed my paths and torn me to pieces; he has made me desolate. (12) He drew his bow and made me the target for his arrow. (13) He shot his arrows into my heart. (14) I have become the laughingstock of all people, their mocking song all day long. (15) He has given me my fill of bitter herbs and made me drunk with bitterness. (16) He ground my teeth in gravel; he trampled me in the dust. (17) I am deprived of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is. (18) So I said, “**My endurance has expired**; I have lost all hope of deliverance from the LORD.” (19) Remember my impoverished and homeless condition, which is a bitter poison. (20) I continually think about this, and I am depressed.”

🕒 UNDERSTANDING GOD'S CORRECTION

HEBREWS 12:3-13 “Think of him who endured such opposition against himself by sinners, so that you may not grow weary in your souls and give up. (4) You have not yet resisted to the point of bloodshed in your struggle against sin. (5) And have you forgotten the exhortation addressed to you as sons? “My son, do not scorn the Lord’s discipline or give up when he corrects you. (6) “For the Lord disciplines the one he loves and chastises every son he accepts.” (7) **Endure your suffering as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is there that a father does not discipline?** (8) But if you do not experience discipline, something all sons have shared in, then you are illegitimate and are not sons. (9) Besides, we have experienced discipline from our earthly fathers and we respected them; shall we not submit ourselves all the more to the Father of spirits and receive life? (10) For they disciplined us for a little while as seemed good to them, but he does so for our benefit, that we may share his holiness. (11) Now all discipline seems painful at the time, not joyful. But later it produces the fruit of peace and righteousness for those trained by it. (12) Therefore, strengthen your listless hands and your weak knees, (13) and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but be healed.”

📍 THE REST OF LAMENTATIONS

LAMENTATIONS 3:21-34 “But this I call to mind; therefore I have hope: (22) The LORD’s loyal kindness never ceases; his compassions never end. (23) They are fresh every morning; your faithfulness is abundant! (24) “My portion is the LORD,” I have said to myself, so I will put my hope in him. (25) The LORD is good to those who trust in him, to the one who seeks him. (26) It is good to wait patiently for deliverance from the LORD. (27) It is good for a man to bear the yoke while he is young. (28) Let a person sit alone in silence, when the LORD is disciplining him. (29) Let him bury his face in the dust; perhaps there is hope. (30) Let him offer his cheek to the one who hits him; let him have his fill of insults. (31) For the Lord will not reject us forever. (32) Though he causes us grief, he then has compassion on us according to the abundance of his loyal kindness. (33) For he is not predisposed to afflict or to grieve people. (34) To crush underfoot all the earth’s prisoners,”

ENDURING TO SERVE GOD

2 TIMOTHY 2:8-13 “Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, of the offspring of David, according to my Good News, (9) in which I suffer hardship to the point of chains as a criminal. But God’s word isn’t chained. (10) Therefore I endure all things for the chosen ones’ sake, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. (11) This saying is trustworthy: “For if we died with him, we will also live with him. (12) If we endure, we will also reign with him. If we deny him, he also will deny us. (13) If we are faithless, he remains faithful. For he can’t deny himself.”

2 CORINTHIANS 6:4-13 “But as God’s servants, we have commended ourselves in every way, with great endurance, in persecutions, in difficulties, in distresses, (5) in beatings, in imprisonments, in riots, in troubles, in sleepless nights, in hunger, (6) by purity, by knowledge, by patience, by benevolence, by the Holy Spirit, by genuine love, (7) by truthful teaching, by the power of God, with weapons of righteousness both for the right hand and for the left, (8) through glory and dishonor, through slander and praise; regarded as impostors, and yet true; (9) as unknown, and yet well-known; as dying and yet – see! – we continue to live; as those who are scourged and yet not executed; (10) as sorrowful, but always rejoicing, as poor, but making many rich, as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. (11) We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; our heart has been opened wide to you. (12) Our affection for you is not restricted, but you are restricted in your affections for us. (13) Now as a fair exchange – I speak as to my children – open wide your hearts to us also.”

1 THESSALONIANS 1:2-5 “We thank God always for all of you as we mention you constantly in our prayers, (3) because we recall in the presence of our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and endurance of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (4) We know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, (5) in that our gospel did not come to you merely in words, but in power and in the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction (surely you recall the character we displayed when we came among you to help you).”

2 TIMOTHY 4:5-8 “But you watch in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fully carry out your ministry. (6) For I am already being poured out, and the time of my release is here. (7) I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith. (8) Now there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that Day; and not to me only, but also to all those who love His appearing.”

DON'T LOSE HEART

1 CORINTHIANS 9:23-27 “I do all these things because of the gospel, so that I can be a participant in it. (24) Do you not know that all the runners in a stadium compete, but only one receives the prize? So run to win. (25) Each competitor must exercise self-control in everything. They do it to receive a perishable crown, but we an imperishable one. (26) So I do not run uncertainly or box like one who hits only air. (27) Instead I subdue my body and make it my slave, so that after preaching to others I myself will not be disqualified.”

1 CORINTHIANS 15:58 “So then, dear brothers and sisters, be firm. Do not be moved! Always be outstanding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”

2 CHRONICLES 15:7 “But as for you, be strong and don't get discouraged, for your work will be rewarded.”

GALATIANS 6:9-10 “So we must not grow weary in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not give up. (10) So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who belong to the family of faith.”

THE ENDURING KEYS

As we read in Revelations, “Prayer” is a big key- we do not want to forget this.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7 “Love is patient, love is kind, it is not envious. Love does not brag, it is not puffed up. (5) It is not rude, it is not self-serving, it is not easily angered or resentful. (6) It is not glad about injustice, but rejoices in the truth. (7) It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

PART A

2 THESSALONIANS 3:3-5 “But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one. (4) And we are confident about you in the Lord that you are both doing – and will do – what we are commanding. (5) Now may the Lord direct your hearts toward the love of God and the endurance of Christ.”

© PART B

HEBREWS 12:1-2 “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, we must get rid of every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and run with endurance the race set out for us, (2) keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy set out for him he endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.”

© PART 1

ROMANS 15:4-7 “For everything that was written in former times was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and through encouragement of the scriptures we may have hope. (5) Now may the God of endurance and comfort give you unity with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus, (6) so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. (7) Receive one another, then, just as Christ also received you, to God’s glory.”

© PART 2

ROMANS 8:18-25 “For I consider that our present sufferings cannot even be compared to the coming glory that will be revealed to us. (19) For the creation eagerly waits for the revelation of the sons of God. (20) For the creation was subjected to futility – not willingly but because of God who subjected it – in hope (21) that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage of decay into the glorious freedom of God’s children. (22) For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers together until now. (23) Not only this, but we ourselves also, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we eagerly await our adoption, the redemption of our bodies. (24) For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, because who hopes for what he sees? (25) But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with endurance.”

REVELATION 2:10 “Don’t be afraid of the things which you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested; and you will have oppression for ten days. Be faithful to death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

~CLOSING~

HEBREWS 10:32-39 “But remember the former days when you endured a harsh conflict of suffering after you were enlightened. (33) At times you were publicly exposed to abuse and afflictions, and at other times you came to share with others who were treated in that way. (34) For in fact you shared the sufferings of those in prison, and you accepted the confiscation of your belongings with joy, because you knew that you certainly had a better and lasting possession. (35) So do not throw away your confidence, because it has great reward. (36) For you need endurance in order to do God’s will and so receive what is promised. (37) For just a little longer and he who is coming will arrive and not delay. (38) But my righteous one will live by faith, and if he shrinks back, I take no pleasure in him. (39) But we are not among those who shrink back and thus perish, but are among those who have faith and preserve their souls.”

ROMANS 8:31-39 “What then shall we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? (32) Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, freely give us all things? (33) Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. (34) Who is the one who will condemn? Christ is the one who died (and more than that, he was raised), who is at the right hand of God, and who also is interceding for us. (35) Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? (36) As it is written, “For your sake we encounter death all day long; we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” (37) No, in all these things we have complete victory through him who loved us! (38) For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor heavenly rulers, nor things that are present, nor things to come, nor powers, (39) nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

As we can clearly see, the Bible talks a great length for the need of “Endurance.” This mighty weapon of faithfulness must be held onto with a death grip. If we give up on the path and turn back, or desire to turn back like the Israelites’ trip out of Egypt, the devil will have us for lunch. Yet, in our endurance and our “never give up, never give in” attitude, we prove our love for God and Jesus. It’s easy to live for and serve the Lord during good times. But, it is in the deep trials of the night and rough valleys that reach down into hell itself that we prove our commitment. Stand fast, brothers and sisters, in the marathon of faith walking. If we do not give up, we will retain our rewards and salvation. So, let’s serve up for the devil a giant heartburn sandwich, and press on to the high calling of Christ Jesus.