

FAITH AND PATIENCE — THE POWER TWINS

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We've been looking at faith. A way of life — not just in a crisis!

But — as important as faith is — there is another “ingredient” to spiritual success.

Today ... we want to look at this partner to faith (together referred to as **the “Power Twins”**).

FAITH AND PATIENCE.

Faith is vital ... but if our faith evaporates after one minute ... or one day ... it's not going to accomplish much!

Our faith needs to continue ... and continue ... till we've received!

Patience is also good. But **patience without faith won't deliver.**
We need both — the Power Twins!

James 1:2-8

2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,
3 knowing that **the testing of your faith produces patience.**

4 But **let patience have its perfect work**, *(that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. Endurance (KJV: Patience). Greek: HUPOMONE = CONSTANCY).*

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

6 But let him **ask in faith, with no doubting**, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

**PATIENT! CONSTANT ... NO DEVIATING ... NO SWERVING
ASIDE OR OFF COURSE. STAY ON THE PATH!**

THAYER: “Characteristic of a man who is not swerved from his deliberate purpose ... by even the greatest of trials”.

NOT DOUBLE-MINDED. HOT AND COLD.

James 1:12

12 **Blessed is the man who endures temptation;** for when he has been approved, **he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.**

“ENDURES” — same GREEK. To receive a Royal Crown — a kingly crown.

We remain constant. Pressure may be on us ... but we stay the course.

James 5:7-8

7 **Therefore be patient, brethren,** until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, **waiting patiently** for it until it receives the early and latter rain.

8 **You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.**

BE PATIENT! Greek: MAKROTHUMEO. To be long-spirited. To bear long.

A farmer waits. He doesn't get anxious. Doesn't dig up his seed a day later!

Establish your heart. Time in the Word — meditate — give it time and space.

Romans 10:17

17 **So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

Hebrews 6:11-15

11 And **we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end,**

12 that you **do not become sluggish, (lazy) but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.**

13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself,

14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you."

15 And so, **after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.**

Through Faith and Patience are "Inheriting" (Greek) ... the Promises. For this life as well as eternal.

Abraham patiently waited (verse 15). What strengthened his faith? Why did he never weaken?

Hebrews 6:16-20

16 For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute.

17 Thus **God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel,** confirmed it by an oath,

18 that by two immutable things, **in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.**

19 **This hope we have as an anchor of the soul,** both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil,
20 where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word and God's path.

We have God's Word. We have a Blood Covenant (and better promises).

Romans 15:4-6

4 For **whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.**

5 Now **may the God of patience and comfort** grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus,

6 **that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Patience and comfort of the scriptures (Old Testament — examples of Abraham ... Joseph ... Moses ... Israel). Also shows God's patience with His people.

Hebrews 3:12-15

12 **Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;**

13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," **lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.**

14 **For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,**

15 while it is said:

"Today, if you will hear His voice,

Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."

Departing = not constant. Remain steadfast — to the end!

Luke 8:11-15

11 "Now the parable is this: **The seed is the word of God.**

12 **Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.**

13 But **the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away.**

14 Now **the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.**

15 But **the ones that fell on the good ground** are those who, **having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.**

The Good Seed ... hear the Word and keep it. They endure. It takes time for seed to bear fruit.

Hebrews 10:35-39

35 **Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.**

36 **For you have need of endurance**, so that after you have done the will of God, **you may receive the promise**:

37 "For yet a little while,

And He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

38 **Now the just shall live by faith:**

But if anyone draws back,

My soul has no pleasure in him."

39 But **we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.**

Endurance (KJV: Patience). Greek: HUPOMONE = **CONSTANCY.**

We don't draw back (NASB: shrink back). Distracted ... think of Peter walking on the water).

Galatians 6:7-9

7 **Do not be deceived, God is not mocked;** for **whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.**

8 For **he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption**, but **he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.**

9 And **let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.**

"IF WE DO NOT LOSE HEART"

Galatians 6:9 (KJV)

9 And **let us not be weary in well doing:** for **in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.**

Galatians 6:9 (NASB)

9 **Let us not lose heart in doing good,** for **in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.**

Which is more likely if we look at the physical evidence ... or our circumstances.

Often best not to!

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

16 **Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.**

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

18 **while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary,** but **the things which are not seen are eternal.**

Don't lose heart!

Look not at the things which are seen (they are temporary — subject to change!).

This is how Paul could remain constant.

1 Corinthians 15:57-58

57 **But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, **be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord,** knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

STEADFAST! IMMOVABLE!

NEVER GIVE UP!

Colossians 1:9-12

9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and **to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will** in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

10 **that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;**

11 **strengthened with all might,** according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

12 **giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.**

PATIENCE = HUPOMONE

LONG-SUFFERING = MAKROTHUMIA

Colossians 1:11 (ESV)

11 **being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;**

Colossians 1:11 (NASB)

11 **strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience;**

Colossians 1:23

23 **if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard**, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Continue ... not moved away ... constant ... no deviation.

Hebrews 12:1-2

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

2 **looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith,**
who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the
shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Let us run with “patience” (KJV). HUPOMONE — constancy
... steadfastness.**

We are committed to a way of life — to live by faith — not wavering
... doubting ... being moved by contradictory physical evidence.

Matthew 24:13

13 But **he who endures to the end shall be saved.**

HE WHO ENDURES — TO THE END. HUPOMONE.

Faith and patience are know as the Power Twins for a good
reason!

Both are necessary. Faith is vital ... but it has to be maintained “AS
LONG AS IT TAKES”. Requires a steadfast ... constant level —
irrespective of obstacles or opposition.

We have to keep on believing — to the end.