

THE FRUIT OF PATIENCE

Part 1

Galatians 5:22–25 NKJV

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 13:4 NKJV

Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up

We have to look into the mirror of God's Word to see how we are doing when it comes to walking in love.

Love - Greek word *agape*

A divine love that gives and gives, even if it's never responded to, thanked or acknowledged. This means agape love has no strings attached, and agape love can never be offended.

Agape occurs when an individual sees, recognizes, understands or appreciates the value of an object or person and it causes the viewer to behold the person in great esteem, awe, admiration wonder and sincere appreciation.

Such great respect is awakened in the heart of the observer for the person he is beholding that he is compelled to love them.

It is love so profound that it knows no bounds, limits in how far, wide, high, and deep it will go to show love to it's recipient.

Agape is a self sacrificing love that moves the lover to action.

Agape is not based on response, it's based upon decision to love and keep on loving. This love is unconditional Gods high level love. It's the most noble purest form of love that exists and it can never be offended, never be put off.

1. LONG SUFFERING

This word suffers long is a compound word *makrothumia* compound word

1. Macros - Describe something that is long or of long duration.
2. Thumos - Describes passions. It mean anger, but also embodies the idea of swelling emotions or a strong and growing passion about something.

Together this word means, the patient restraint of anger.

Therefore long suffering is something that burns for a long long time yet it's filled with forbearance, patience. It is ready to forbear and to patiently wait until a person finally comes around, makes progress, changes or hears what you're trying to communicate.

This is totally supernatural.

Romans 5:5 NKJV

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

2. GOD IS PATIENT WITH US

2 Peter 3:9 NKJV

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Psalms 86:15 NKJV

But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, Longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.

Isaiah 30:18-19 NKJV

Therefore the Lord will wait, that He may be gracious to you;
And therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you.
For the Lord is a God of justice; Blessed are all those who wait for Him.

Romans 5:3-4 TLB

We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they are good for us—they help us learn to be patient. **4** And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it until finally our hope and faith are strong and steady.

3. SEE IT FROM GOD'S PERSPECTIVE

Look at the problem from a larger point of view, the Bible calls it wisdom

Proverbs 19:11NIV

A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense.