

## **THE FARMER'S PATIENCE**

Our lesson title comes from the illustration of the farmer's patience in our lesson text.

What is interesting about James' illustration is the length of time required in the Christian way of life.

Notice that Paul used the Greek word, makrothumeo rather than hupomeno, for patience. Makrothumeo refers to **long suffering**.

It is used three times in our lesson text. Twice it is used as a strong command (a.a.impv.2pl).

**Note** the two (2pl a.a.impv) (commands).

“You all be patient (Jas 5:7)”.

“You too all be patient (Jas 5:8).”

**Note** the change from an aorist to present tense and from plural to singular person in the illustration of the farmer (Jas.5:7). The main verb “waits” (dechomai) (p.m.ind.3ps) and participle (p.a.ptc.nsm).

Grammatical principle: The action of the present participle (being patient) occurs at the same time as the action of the main verb (waits) in the farmer illustration (**waits being patient**).

<b>This lesson will study <u>three aspects</u> of The Farmer's Patience (waits being patient).</b>
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Our Greek lesson text is like a sandwich. The two slices of bread are the two commands (a.a.impv.2pl). The meat is what gives the sandwich a name, **makrothumeo** (doctrine of long suffering, wait).

### **1. James' illustration of The Farmer's Patience is directed towards three parts: be patient; wait while being patient; and wait until God completes it.**

(Jas.5:7)“The farmer waits (dechomai/ p.m.ind.3ps) [for what?] **for the precious produce** of the soil (for the fruit of the long suffering) [how to wait?] being patient about it (p.m.ind.3ps) (makrothumeo nsm) [suffering **for how long?**] **until** (heos) (preposition + subjunctive) **it gets** (lambano/ a.a.subj.3ps) (receive) the early and late rains (**reason** for waiting patiently during long suffering).”

You have been promised a grace result. You will receive - “the precious produce.” This divine blessing will come as a result of the “early and late rains.” It will come in time like Job (Job 42:10-17) or in eternity like Paul (2 Tim.4:6-8) or coming of Lord (Jas.5:8) [Rapture] (1 Thess.4:13-18).

### **2. In (James 5:8), he compared the “early and late rain of (James 5:7) to the “coming of the Lord.”**

**Only God** can send the “early and late rains” for the “precious produce” (Deut.11:13-17)

(Deut.11:14) “He will give the rain for your land in its seasons, the early and late rain, **that** (divine purpose) you may gather in your grain and your new wine and your oil.”

**Only God** can send Jesus Christ back to earth a Second Time.

(Matt.24:36) “But of that day no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.”

Man cannot produce either end that is why he is commanded twice - “**You all be patient.**”

**3. There are two doctrines that are commanded for application for waiting patiently during long term suffering: makrothumeo and sterizo.**

(James 5:8) “You too be patient (makrothumeo/ a.a.impv.2pl); strengthen (sterizo/ a.a.impv.2pl) your hearts, for the Coming of the Lord is near.”

- **Makrothumeo** is the 4th fruit of the ministry of the indwelling Holy Spirit (**Gal.5:22-23**; 5:16-17; 1 Cor.6:19-20).

(Gal.5:25) “If (1cc) [true] we **live** (zao/ p.a.ind.1pl) by means of the Spirit, let us **walk** (stoicheo/ p.a.subj 1pl) [march in step] by means of the Spirit.”

- **Sterizo** (to establish, to confirm, to fix) is result of focusing on the inhale and exhale of Categorical Bible Doctrine to the circumstances of life - no matter how many times they change (Life of Joseph).

(Phil.1:29) “It has been granted (charizomai/ a.p.ind.3ps) for Christ’s sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake.” (1 Pet.2:20)

(2 Pet.1:12) “Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them, and **have been established in the truth** which is present to you.” (2 Pet.1:12-15) (Acts 14:22; 15:32, 41; 18:23; 1 Thess.3:1-5)

“It is the reliance on God and acceptance of His will, with trust in His goodness, wisdom, and faithfulness, that we are enabled to endure and to hope steadfastly to the end.” (ISBE, pg.2263)

“Wait for the Lord; **be strong and let your heart take courage**; yes, wait for the Lord.” (Ps.27:14; 31:24)

**Precious produce:** “After you have suffered for a little while, **God of all grace**, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, **confirm (sterizo)**, strengthen and establish you.” (1 Pet.5:10; James 5:10-11)