

Keep on Keeping On
Hebrews 11:23-29
By Russell Earl

23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.
24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.
27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. 28 By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.
29 By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.
Hebrews 11:23-29

Thesis: I want to show how the Christian must be patient and keep working for the Lord.

Intro: 1. Perseverance – persistence in doing something despite difficult or delay in achieving success.
2. No is a time where great determination and perseverance is needed.

I. Patience to get beyond

3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope. (Romans 5:3-4)

Strong's defines perseverance this way: in the NT the characteristic of a man who is not swerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings

10 But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, (2 Tim 3:10)

Longsuffering can also be defined as: constancy

A. Patience to endure difficult times

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. (Hebrews 11:27)

1. Giving up is not an option for a faithful servant of God.

2. We must endure difficult times while keeping God in our sight (**Heb 11:27**)

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. (Hebrews 11:27)

B. Patience to understand all things come to an end.

Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him; (Ps 37:7a)

1. Until the Lord returns the sun will continue to rise and set every day.

It is good that one should hope and wait quietly For the salvation of the Lord. (Lam 3:26)

2. The Christian must live and behave knowing this fact.

3. The Lord always provides, and we must also be those help provide to those in need.

II. Continuing to work for the Lord

A. The Lord's work must go on

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. (1 Cor 15:48)

1. Paul was in prison, yet he continued to encourage, warn and teach from his cell.

2. Jeremiah was put in stocks, yet when he was brought before the king, his message was the same, God's message hadn't changed.

B. The Lord's work can be done in many ways.

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations... (Mt 28:19a)

1. We reach out to the lost and encourage the brethren in many ways.

2. The internet is one, in person (in the near future), in print, in phone calls, in cards and much more.

III. Lessons for Us Today

A. We must be patient.

1. Things may improve and progress slowly for a while, but we must not lose heart.

i. Noah exercised great patience during the building of the ark, waiting on the waters to subside, and then waiting in the ark until he was told he could leave. We can learn from his example.

a. Noah's patience had to endure for years, not just a few weeks.

2. We also must not allow times of confusion and difficulties to divide us.

i. This would only please Satan and those who are ungodly.

ii. Remember the words of God from **2 Sam 12:14** "***because of this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme***".

iii. Give no one in the church or out a reason to doubt.

B. We must continue to work for the Lord.

1. The work doesn't stop.

2. The church is still here.

3. The lost still need the message and the saved still need encouragement.

a. Encourage one another.

b. Take this opportunity to encourage one another in new ways and in old ways.

Application & Conclusion:

1. Brethren, we must keep moving forward.
2. Now is not the time, nor is there any time for that matter, to become discouraged and give up.
 - i. Four times in the new testament (NKJV) we find the phrase “*do not lose heart*”. Friends we cannot lose heart!
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9