



# Way of the Eagle

by Rhoda Collins

## ENDURANCE

**F**or you have need of steadfast patience and endurance, so that you may perform and fully accomplish the will of God, and thus receive and carry away [and enjoy to the full] what is promised" Hebrews 10:36.

What does it mean to endure; to go through rough patches in our lives and not give up? What sustains us through those times? What attitude and thoughts do you choose to have during those times? What is God trying to accomplish during hard times in our lives?

During trials and tribulations it is very important what we think and say. If we have a negative bad attitude, we'll remain in the situation until we choose to "put on the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness". Probably this is the one way we can grow spiritually when we choose to trust God regarding what's happening in our circumstances.

Here are some examples from the bible that people endured hardship:

**David was oppressed by his enemies Psalm 132:2**

**Paul suffered in serving the Lord 2 Cor. 6:4-5**

**The example of Jesus Christ Such as 2 Cor. 8:9**

One example of endurance is what Paul says in **Philippians 4:11-14:**

"Not that I am implying that I was in any personal want, for I have learned how to be content (satisfied to the point where I am not disturbed or disquieted) in whatever state I am. I know how to be abased and live humbly in straitened circumstances, and I know also how to enjoy plenty and live in abundance. I have learned in any and all circumstances the secret of facing every situation, whether

well-fed or going hungry, having a sufficiency and enough to spare or going without and being in want. I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me [I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me; I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency]. But it was right and commendable and noble of you to contribute for my needs and to share my difficulties with me."

How do we go from just quoting the scripture to actually doing it?

When we go through unpleasant circumstances we can't just proclaim negatives over our future or circumstances. Many Christians speak negatives, grumble, murmur, complain, and curse themselves (i.e. This always happens to me"). We need to look beyond what we see and have a vision for our lives and proclaim it every day. We need to seek God's will for our lives and then have faith that it is to happen.

We need to overcome all the strongholds of negativism that build up within us. We need to destroy them.

"For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds, [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasoning and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One)". 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Strongholds are like brick walls and they are built up one brick at a time by rotating certain kinds of thoughts in our minds. Once we establish those ruts, or habitual ways of thinking it is very difficult to change. With the help of the Word of God, prayer and obtaining deliverance (assisted or self) we can demolish these strongholds.

If you persist and do My will,  
you will receive what I have promised.

HEBREWS 10:36

## Endurance is a hallmark of a true Christian

In **Matthew 10:22** Jesus mentions what believers are going through: "And you will be hated by all for My name's sake, but he who perseveres and endures to the end will be saved [from spiritual disease and death in the world to come]".

"If we endure, we shall also reign with Him. If we deny and disown and reject Him, He will also deny and disown and reject us." **2 Timothy 2:12**

A few of the results of endurance is:

- Salvation (**Romans 2:7**)
- Protection (**2 Thessalonians 3:3-4**)
- Spiritual Fruit (**Romans 5:3-5**)

"Moreover [let us also be full of joy now!] let us exult and triumph in our troubles and rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that pressure and affliction and hardship produce patient and unswerving endurance. And endurance (fortitude) develops maturity of character (approved faith and tried integrity). And character [of this sort] produces [the habit of] joyful and confident hope of eternal salvation. Such hope never disappoints or deludes or shames us, for God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us".

- Encouragement for others (**1 Peter 5:9**)

"Withstand him; be firm in faith [against his onset—rooted, established, strong, immovable, and determined], knowing that the same (identical) sufferings are appointed to your brotherhood (the whole body of Christians) throughout the world."

Christian endurance involves standing firm and being like Paul; humble in difficult circumstances and being joyful in good circumstances.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be firm (steadfast), immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord [always being superior, excelling, doing more than enough in the service of the Lord], knowing and being continually aware that your labor in the Lord is not futile [it is never wasted or to no purpose]" **1 Corinthians 15:58**

Endurance leads to perseverance. Enduring in a course of action or belief. In its negative sense, it can mean being stubborn; in its positive sense, it means continuing commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Christian's perseverance in faith: "As you have therefore received Christ, [even] Jesus the Lord, [so] walk (regulate your lives and conduct yourselves) in union with and conformity to Him. Have the roots [of your being] firmly and deeply planted [in Him, fixed and founded in Him], being continually built up in Him, becoming increasingly more confirmed and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and abounding and overflowing in it with thanksgiving." **Colossians 2:6-7**

One testimony I heard from Randy Clark of endurance is about Heidi Baker. She and her husband oversaw 3 churches and looked after 300 orphans in Mozambique. She was burned out and needed strength from God. So she went to the Toronto Blessing 20 years ago and God asked her, "I will give you the nation of Mozambique. Do you want it?" She said, "Yes". God then filled her so much with His power and glory that she became afraid and said, "God I feel like I'm dying." God said, "Good!" The power of God made her unable to walk for a week! Her husband carried her back and forth to the hotel and to the meeting every day until she could walk again. When she went back to Mozambique she got MS; her husband got cerebral malaria; her children became sick; the government confiscated all her buildings and her ministry support of 1 million dollars was stopped because the people that were supporting her didn't agree with the miracles signs and wonders she was involved with now. So she decided to trust God and believe with all of her heart that God is going to come through for her and she never gave up. She endured for a long time. She received her healing from MS when the orphaned children laid hands on her. She chased blind people for 1 year to lay hands on them to be healed. They weren't healed. She faithfully persisted. Healings finally started happening; she started raising the dead; over 12,000 churches started; she became an author and international speaker. That's endurance! Truly being faithful to God and not giving up.

If you are in a situation right now where you are thinking or saying I can't go on, don't give up; God is going to come through for you. Keep on and keep believing! Prophesy your future according to God's Word. Ask God to give you His strength. Endure to the end and receive your crown of life (**Revelation 2:10**)!