



Pastor's Comments

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Northampton Assembly of God

3449 Cherryville Rd., Northampton • Sun. 10:45 am & 6 pm; Wed. 7:30 pm

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Faith's Patience

Last Sunday, I preached from Lamentations 3:26, *"It is good that a man should both **hope** and **quietly wait** for the salvation of the LORD."* You can hear this complete message, which God burned into my soul, at: www.naog.ws/sermons.htm I titled it, **"Faith's Patience"** because **patience** is an element of **faith** in God. Throughout the Bible we see the importance of **patience** with **faith**. *"Here is the **patience** and the **faith** of the saints"* (Revelation 13:10).

After proclaiming to the Jews God's prophecies of coming judgment for their sins, Jeremiah, author of Lamentations, suffered rejection and persecution. Through these trials he learned that **patience** is a necessary ingredient of an **expectant hope** in God! **Patience is, in fact, evidence of a genuine faith in God!** Prior to our text, Jeremiah tells of the ridicule and mistreatment he experienced and how discouraged he had been – even feeling that God wasn't hearing his prayers: *"When I cry and shout, he shutteth out my prayer."* He had been thrown into a horrible pit of mire and left to die. But then he says, *"This I recall to my mind, **therefore have I hope.**"* There was no way for him to get out of that pit alive – **yet God had made a way out!** God caused Ebedmelech, an Ethiopian eunuch in the king's house, to hear about it and gave him the burden to appeal to the king who commanded him to take 30 men and get Jeremiah out of the pit. Jeremiah goes on to declare, *"The LORD is good unto them that **wait for him**, to the soul that **seeketh him.**"* If you will seek God and **patiently wait** for Him, you will find that **"The Lord is good!"**

May we possess this **faith's patience** as exemplified by Jeremiah, Abraham, and others and be *"followers of them who through **faith and patience** inherit the promises"* (Hebrews 6:12). I urge you to hear this full message at: www.naog.ws/sermons.htm