

Perseverance is God's Grace in Action

Abraham & Sarah

- Revelation 3:10 (NKJV)
- 10 **Because you have kept My command to persevere**, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.
- James 1:12 (NKJV)
- 12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the **crown of life** which the Lord has promised **to those who love Him**.
 - John 14:22-24 (NKJV)
 - 22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?" 23 Jesus answered and said to him, "**If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word**; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. 24 He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me.
 - when we endure through out our lives we have a hope of the reward of the crown of life
- Revelation 3:11-12 (NKJV)
- 11 Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take **your crown**. 12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.
 - **crown: wreath (Hellenistic/Greek) - a wreath (or diadem) worn on the head to signify victory, glory, or prestige (and sometimes sovereignty).**
- **Abraham**
- Romans 4:3 For what does the Scripture say? "**Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.**"
- Romans 4:13 (NKJV)
- 13 **For the promise that he would be the heir of the world** was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but **through the righteousness of faith**.
- Romans 4:16-17 (NKJV)
- 16 **Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace**, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all
- 17 (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;
 - from the time of God calling Abram to leave his father's land to the time of promising Abram an heir from himself and Sarah Abram endured without a son getting ever older and less likely to have an heir.
 - Abram also endured without possession of land

- Romans 4:18–25 (NKJV)
- 18 who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, “So shall your descendants be.” 19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb. **20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.** 22 And therefore “it was accounted to him for righteousness.” 23 Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, 24 but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.
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- Colossians 1:21–23 (NKJV)
- 21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled
- 22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—
- 23 **if indeed you continue in the faith,** grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.
- Continue in sound doctrine
- 2 Timothy 3:8–15 (NKJV)
- 8 Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, **disapproved concerning the faith;** 9 but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was. 10 But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, 11 persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra—**what persecutions I endured.** And out of them all the Lord delivered me. 12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. 13 But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
- Titus 1:7–9 (NKJV)
- 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, 8 but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, 9 holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.
- 2 Timothy 4:1–5 (NKJV)
- 1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: 2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. 5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.
- 1 Timothy 1:3–11 (NKJV)
- 3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia—remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine, 4 nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith. 5 Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith, 6 from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk, 7 desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm. 8 But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, 9 knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for

manslayers, 10 for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine, 11 according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.

- 2 Timothy 2:1-3 (NKJV)

- 1 You therefore, my son, **be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.** 2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. 3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

- **be strong :be enabled - to be or become rendered (more) capable for a task.**

- Hebrews 11:30-35 (NKJV)

- 30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days. 31 By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace. 32 And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: 33 **who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle,** turned to flight the armies of the aliens. 35 Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.

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