



RESURRECTION CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

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EVANGELIZING THE HEART OF THE BELIEVER

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Letters of Faith

“But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with *perseverance*.”

(Luke 8:15 NASB, emphasis added throughout)

Dear Beloved,

We are presently hearing a clear Word of the Lord: *persevere!*

Yes, Beloved, we are both walking with Jesus through some tests and trials and we know that most of you reading this epistle are also. The world in which we live is convulsing in new and previously unexperienced ways, and we are constantly confronted by Jesus' words saying that we are not of this world, even though we are in it, because we are locked in battles that seem to never end, and ever facing up to new ones that keep us growing from glory to glory.

Jesus reassured His disciples: **“These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”** (John 16:33) He proclaimed we would have peace as we *persevere* in, over, and through all the tribulations we would encounter here on this earthly walk. On Patmos, an angel declared to John: **“Here is the *perseverance* of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.”** (Rev. 14:12)

The words of Peter come constantly to our minds as we face and deal with these apparent conflicts between these anointed Words of God—the actual words of Jesus and the Father's ministering spirits as recorded for us by His disciples—as we pass through some of our everyday obstacles: **“Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.”** (1 Pet. 4:12-13)

Peter *persevered* through surprising fiery ordeals to glory as though they were just a given everyday part of his walk with Jesus. He exhorted us all: **“Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.”** (1 Pet. 2:11) Fleshly lusts (not just sexual lust, but all extra ordinary and hard to control desires) are one of the battle fields on which we engage the enemy of our souls, and must *persevere* to the victory already won for us by Jesus.

And there are other battle grounds from outside forces that test our *perseverance*. From his imprisonment on the Isle of Patmos, the apostle John would speak of this: **“I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and *perseverance* which are in Jesus...”** (Rev. 1:9) The word “tribulation” here is literally “affliction or anguish.” He was telling the Church that

he was with them in all their tribulations, afflictions, and anguishes as a fellow partaker of them, as well as a fellow partaker of the Kingdom of God, because he was *persevering* with the *perseverance* that was his in Jesus. He was modeling for the Church what Titus would later write: **“Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in *perseverance*.”** (Titus 2:2)

Beloved, be assured: we can *persevere* through any fight, or battle, or confrontation, or trial, or tribulation because we have Jesus in us and we are in Him and He *persevered* in, over, and through every thought, word, and deed that the devil himself threw at Him. And we have the apostle John’s assuring testimony that, like him, we too can *persevere* with the same *perseverance* that was in Jesus.

Paul wrote to us (through his letter to the Galatian Church): **“The old sinful nature loves to do evil, which is just opposite from what the Holy Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are opposite from what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, and your choices are never free from this conflict.”** (Gal. 5:17 NLT) Since this is one of the conflicts we will apparently have as long as we are here on this earth, *perseverance* in this struggle is mandatory, continuous, and Holy Spirit empowered for victory.

Luke 21:19 says: **“By your *endurance* you will gain your lives.”** The word “endurance” here is the same Greek word translated *perseverance* in Rev. 1:9 above. Jesus is telling us that our very lives (eternal) depend on our walking in *perseverance* through all things.

Similarly, in 2 Thes. 3:5, this same Greek word is translated as steadfastness: **“May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the *steadfastness* of Christ.”** So the apostle Paul is exhorting us all to walk in the love of God and the *perseverance* of Jesus Christ—to *persevere* in love!

All in all, the same Greek word used 36 times in the New Testament is translated *perseverance* 24 times, endurance nine times, and steadfastness three times. This indicates the importance this character trait—this fruit of the Holy Spirit—has to the Holy Spirit who authored the “operator’s handbook” for our Christian walk.

“And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about *perseverance*; and *perseverance*, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.” (Rom. 5:3-5)

The apostle Paul hammers home this concept in his word to the Romans: **“For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through *perseverance* and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Now may the God who gives *perseverance* and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus, so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”** (Rom. 15:4-6)

To us, the apostle Paul was the personification of *persevering* with the *perseverance* of Christ! But even so, in his instructions to the Church in Ephesus, he pleads for them to support him in his *persevering*: **“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all *perseverance* and petition for all the saints, and pray on my behalf, that**

utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador.” (Eph. 6:18-20)

The apostle James says in James 1:12: **“Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”**

Our prayer for you is that you will be that blessed person of James’ declaration and persevere into God’s approval and crowning as His Beloved one!

Huge Haglin (fellow partaker) Hugs,



P. S. With huge thanks to Alexis for sharing this revelation and doing all the scriptural excavating for this *Letter of Faith*, we invite you to check out the following 21 additional places in the New Testament where the word *persevere* appears in one of its three forms: Luke 8:15, Rom. 2:6-7, Rom. 8:15, Rom. 12:9-13, 2 Cor. 1:5-7, 2 Cor. 6:3-10, 2 Cor. 12:12, 1 Thes. 1:2-4, 2 Thes. 1:4-5, 1 Tim. 6:11-12, 2 Tim. 3:10-11, Col. 1:9-11, Heb. 10:35-36, Heb. 12:1-2, James 1:2-4, James 5:11, 2 Pet. 1:5-8, Rev. 2:1-3, Rev. 2:18-19, Rev. 3:7 & 10, and Rev. 13:10.

Following are the verses noted above which are not included in the *Letter* body.

2 Pet. 1:5-8 “Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

2 Cor. 12:12 The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.

2 Th. 1:4-5 “...we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure. This is a plain indication of God’s righteous judgment so that you will be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which indeed you are suffering.”

1 Tim. 6:11-12 “But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”

2 Tim. 3:10-11 “Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me!”

Heb. 12:1-2 “Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance (perseverance) the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

James 5:11 “We count those blessed who endured (persevered). You have heard of the endurance (perseverance) of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord’s dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.”

Rev. 2:1-3 “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this: ‘I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name’s sake, and have not grown weary.’”

Rev. 3:10 “Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.”

Rev. 13:10 “If anyone is destined for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints.”

Rev. 14:12 “Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.