

For If Ye Do These Things Ye Shall Never Fall

(Part 7)

I. Introduction:

A. What good is faith, living godly, being strong, maturing in knowledge, and controlling ourselves if any of that is temporary (**II Peter 2:20-22**)?

1. Many find themselves starting right, but then in times of temptation fall away (**Luke 8:13-14**).

2. The faithful continue and bring forth fruit with patience (**Luke 8:15**).

B. Being a faithful Christian is not just about starting right (**I John 2:18-19**).

1. Endurance is a mentality (**John 4:34** and **Hebrews 12:1-3**).

2. We cannot be quitters (**Luke 9:57-62**).

II. Body: And To Temperance Patience (**II Peter 1:6**).

A. Patience in this context means: “cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy: — enduring, patience, patient continuance (waiting). Steadfastness, constancy, endurance 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. Patiently, and steadfastly. A patient, steadfast waiting for. A patient enduring, sustaining, perseverance” (Strong’s #5281).

1. Being steadfast (**I Corinthians 15:58**).

2. Being constant; in continuance (**Romans 2:7**).

3. Waiting for the reward (**Hebrews 10:35-36**).

4. Not wavering (**Hebrews 10:22-23**).

5. Not wavering even through great trials (**Romans 5:1-4** and **James 2:2-4**).

B. So don’t...

1. ... Get too tired (**Galatians 6:9**).

2. ... Get too discouraged (**Romans 8:28-39** and **II Timothy 2:19**).

3. ... Allow others to get you to quit (**Deuteronomy 1:22-39**).

4. ... Stop short of finishing (**Mark 13:13** and **Hebrews 3:6**).

5. ... Think you cannot get through this (**II Thessalonians 1:1-5**).

6. ... Be weak (**Proverbs 24:10**).

7. ... Fall for error or follow the erring (**Colossians 1:23-2:8** and **III John 1:11**).

8. ... Discount endurance as though God considers it less important, for endurance is part of God’s nature (**Romans 15:4-5**).

C. Having said all of that, endurance doesn’t always mean that person or group of people are entirely faithful (**Revelation 2:1-7; 2:18-29**).

1. Endurance must be coupled with keeping the faith (**II Timothy 4:6-8** and **Revelation 2:10**).

2. Being faithful means we are obeying “all things” (**Matthew 28:20**, **Hebrews 5:8-9**, **James 2:10-12**, and **I John 2:3-6**).

III. Conclusion: It is not when you started or how long you have worked that matters most. It matters that you finish faithfully (**Matthew 20:1-16**).