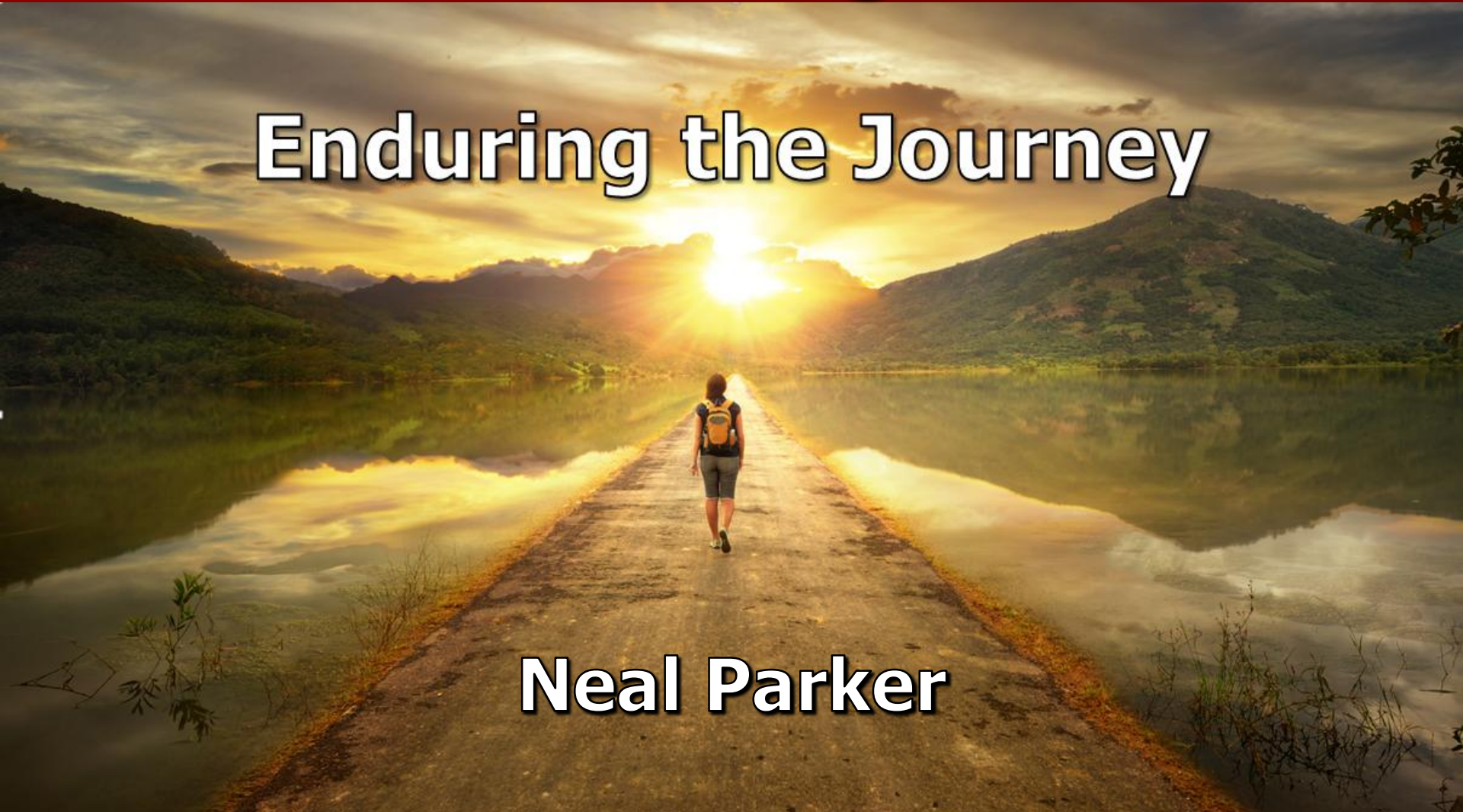


# Message

Enduring the Journey

Neal Parker



# **God's Holy Days 3 Times A Year**

## **Deuteronomy 16:16-17**

**Three times in a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses, at the Feast of Unleavened Bread and at the Feast of Weeks and at the Feast of Booths, and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed. Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God, which He has given you.**

**New American Standard**

# **God's Holy Days**

## **3 Times A Year**

### **Romans 12:1**

**Therefore, I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable (well-pleasing) to God, which is your spiritual (rational) service of worship.**

### **Luke 12:48**

**... From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much of him, they will ask all the more**

**New American Standard**

# **God's Holy Days**

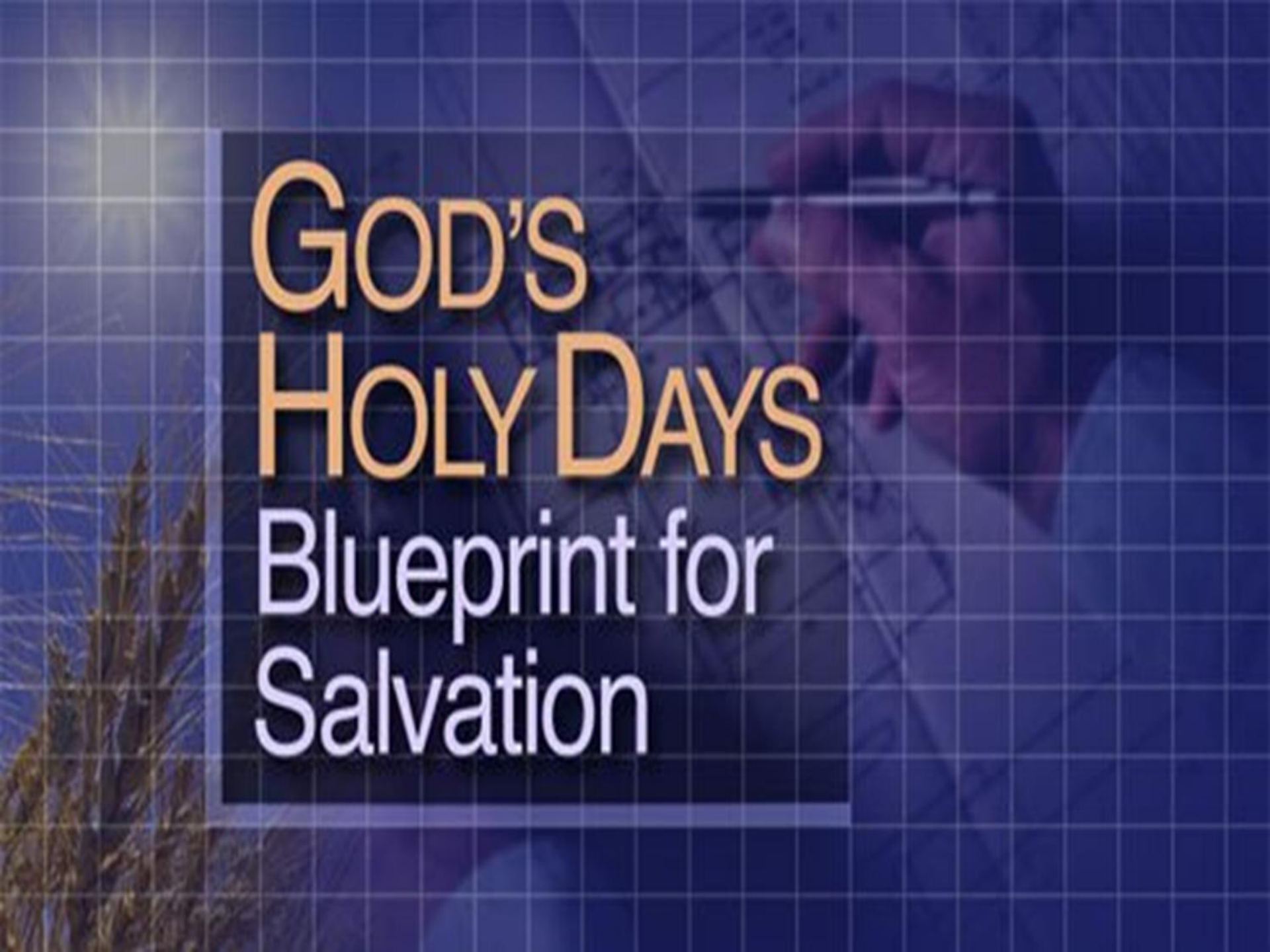
## **Three Times A Year**

### ■ **Exodus 23:14-17; 34:18-23**

#### – **Parallel Accounts to Deuteronomy 16:16-17**

- **Times** – Strong's #6470 – "To Tap" (i.e. beat regularly – to impel or agitate – move, trouble.
- **Times** – Strong's #6471 – "A Stroke"  
(Figuratively – anvil, corner, foot or step, going, order, rank, time, twice, wheel.
- **Time** – Strong's #4150 – "An Appointment" (i.e. fixed time or season; Specifically – a festival






# GOD'S HOLY DAYS

Blueprint for  
Salvation

# Unique Among God's Holy Days

## ■ Leviticus 23:15-16

- “Count” – *caphtar*
    - “to score with a mark, as a tally or record”
    - “to inscribe”
    - “to celebrate”
  - “Complete” - *tamiym*
    - “whole, entire, sound”
      - Whole / Complete
      - Entire (of time)
      - Sound, wholesome, unimpaired, innocent, having integrity
    - What is complete or entirely in accord with truth and fact; blameless, perfect, upright or sincere
- 
- An open Bible is shown with a magnifying glass resting on the right page. The magnifying glass focuses on the text of Acts 12:1-6, which describes Peter's imprisonment and the church's prayer for his release. The text is in a traditional English translation, likely the King James Version. The left page also contains text from the same chapter, mentioning the persecution of Christians in Jerusalem. The Bible is open to a dark cover, and the pages are white with black ink. The magnifying glass has a black frame and a clear lens.



# Unique Among God's Holy Days

## ■ Leviticus 23:15-16

### – “Count” – *caphar*

- Its primary usage *always* has to do with either something that has happened in the past or is happening in the present. It has to do with recording and recounting rather than forecasting—that is, rather than counting in advance. Its usage has virtually nothing to do with looking ahead, with speculating on the future.

### – “Complete” - *tamiym*

- The idea of “complete” or “entire” is certainly present in these words, but the way it is used indicates far more than just “not lacking any parts.” It implies *complete in a moral sense*.
- In type, then, these seven Sabbaths represent the *process* of the firstfruits becoming spiritually complete, that is, perfect, blameless, and absent of moral blemish—in short, the progression toward putting on the full image of God.

# APRIL 2025

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 X	21 X	22 X	23 X	24 X	25 X	26 X
27 X	28 X	29 X	30 X			

# MAY 2025

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1 X	2 X	3 X
4 X	5 X	6 X	7 X	8 X	9 X	10 X
11 X	12 X	13 X	14 X	15 X	16 X	17 X
18 X	19 X	20 X	21 X	22 X	23 X	24 X
25 X	26 X	27 X	28 X	29 X	30 X	31 X

# JUNE 2025

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1 X	2 X	3 X	4 X	5 X	6 X	7 X
8 X	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



# **Biblical Instances of Complete**

## ■ **Genesis 6:9**

- These are the records of the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God.

## ■ **Genesis 17:1**

- Now when Abram was ninety-nine \* years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; Walk before Me, and be blameless.

## ■ **Exodus 12:5; Leviticus 1:3; Numbers 6:14**

- Examples of scriptures detailing that the sacrifices (representations of Jesus Christ) were to be without blemish.

# What is Endurance?

- In the Bible, enduring means more than simply putting up with trials or adversity.
- Endurance involves our mind and heart, or the way we react to hardships.
- **Endurance:** “It is the quality which keeps a man on his feet with his face to the wind. It is the virtue which can transmute the hardest trial into glory because beyond the pain it sees the goal.”



# Christian Endurance

## ■ Luke 22:41-42

- Christian endurance is motivated by love. Love for God motivates us to endure anything that is in harmony with his will.

## ■ I Peter 4:7-10

- Christian endurance is motivated by love. Love for our brothers helps us to endure their imperfections.

## ■ Hebrews 11:32-40; 12:1-3

- Christian endurance is motivated by love. Love for the promises of God and their desire to be made complete.

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a large quantity of small, light-brown seeds. The hand is tilted, and a stream of seeds is falling from the fingers into the ground below. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape under a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is peaceful and hopeful.

# Parable of the Sower



# Matthew's Account: Parable Of The Sower

## ■ Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

- Some seeds fall on hard ground that the plow has not been turned; seeds cannot sink into the soil and the birds find and devour it. / Hears the Word, and does not value it, the Evil one snatches away what was sown in the heart
- Some seeds fall on stony ground with limited soil and insufficient root system / Hears the Word and receives it, but there is no firm root (temporary) when afflictions or persecutions arise because of the word, they fall away.

# Matthew's Account: Parable Of The Sower

## ■ Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

- Some seeds fall among thorns resulting in the choking out of seed. / Hears the Word, but worry of the age and deceitfulness of wealth choke the Word causing it to be unfruitful.
- Some seeds fall on fertile and rich soil that varies in its yield/ Hears the Word, understands it and bears fruit.

# Mark's Account: Parable Of The Sower

## ■ Mark 4:3-9, 13-20

- Hard Ground / Satan takes away the Word that had been sown
- Stony Ground / Affliction or persecution arises because of the Word.
- Thorns / Worries of the age, deceitfulness of riches and desires for other things enter and choke the Word.
- Good Soil / Hear, accept and bear fruits of the Word

# Luke's Account: Parable Of The Sower

## ■ Luke 8:4-8, 10-15

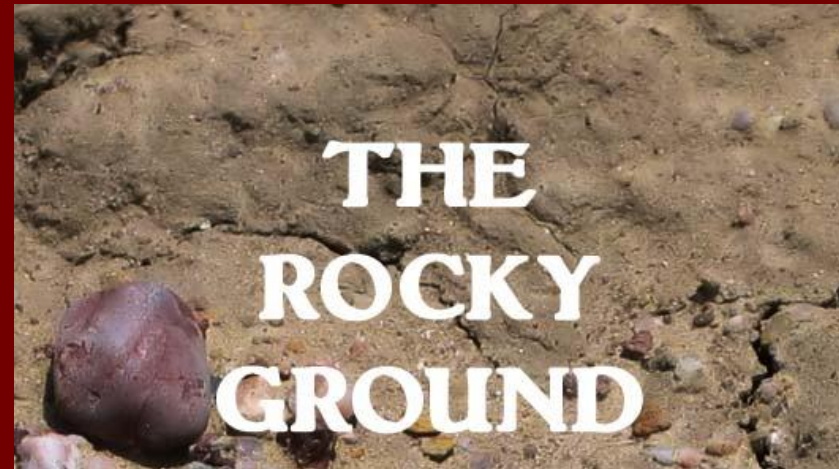
- Hard Ground / Satan takes away the Word from the heart, causing unbelief and no salvation.
- Stony Ground / Believe for a while, then affliction or persecution arises, because of the Word.
- Thorns / Worries of the age, deceitfulness of riches and pleasures of this life, enter in and chokes the Word.
- Good Soil / Hear in a honest and good heart, hold it fast and bear fruits of the Word, with perseverance.



# Intrigued / No Depth Of Understanding

## ■ Matthew 22:14; Luke 13:23-24

- Suffering anxiety from sin, they seem to respond properly, when hearing God's offer of mercy, they may have a temporary peace and happiness.
- Mere excited human emotion is an insufficient motivation to sustain a person throughout the long process of conversion.



# Enticements By The World

## ■ Matthew 7:13-14; I Timothy 6:7-11

- Consumed by the cares and anxieties of this physical life and enticement of physical wealth.
- Constant pressures of ordinary life can cause us to ignore God and our Christian growth.

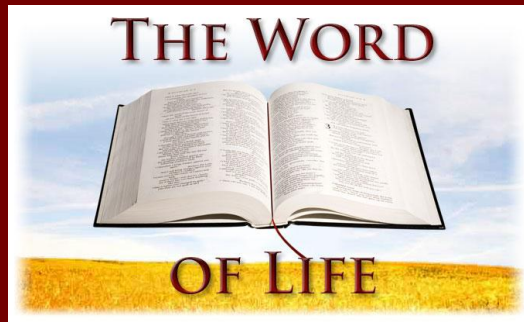


# Parable of the Sower

## Christian Endurance

### ■ Overall Lesson From the Parable for Us

- The speed of apparent growth is far less important than the depth and health of the roots providing that growth.
- The seven Sabbaths in the count to Pentecost symbolically represent a long time, and during it, many trials will arise in which healthy roots are more valuable than stems and leaves, which may look healthy for a time but cannot endure to the end.



# Five Keys Of Christian Endurance

## ■ #1 - Turn to God for Strength

- Our Father and Jesus Christ are “the God who supplies endurance and comfort.” (Roman 15:5)
- They alone fully understands not only the problems we face but also the way our environment, emotions, and even our genetic makeup affect us. They are the best ones to equip us to endure.
- “He satisfies the desire of those who fear him. He hears their cry for help, and he rescues them.” (Psalm 145:19)





# Five Keys Of Christian Endurance

## ■ #2 - Nourish your Faith with Spiritual Food

- On Mount Everest, the world's tallest mountain, a climber burns about 6,000 calories a day, considerably more than the average person needs. To endure the ascent and reach their goal, climbers must consume as many calories as possible.
- Similarly, to endure in our Christian course and reach our goal, we must regularly take in as much spiritual food as possible.
- We need self-discipline to devote time to reading, study, and our Sabbath and Holy Day meetings. These activities nourish our faith with “the food that remains for everlasting life.”— John 6:26-27.

# Five Keys Of Christian Endurance

## ■ #3 - Remember the Issue of Integrity

- When a servant of God faces a trial, there is much more at stake than one person's suffering. By the way we react to our trials, we demonstrate whether we really view God as the **Universal Sovereign**. Satan taunted God with the words: "A man will give everything that he has for his life. But, for a change, stretch out your hand and strike [Job's] bone and flesh, and he will surely curse you to your very face." (Job 2:4, 5)
- Satan has not forgotten the issue of integrity.



# Five Keys Of Christian Endurance

## ■ #4 - Focus on the Rewards of Endurance

- We may at times feel overwhelmed by the problems you face.
- “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. For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” (Hebrews 12:2, 3)



Enduring the Journey

# Five Keys Of Christian Endurance

## ■ #5 - Let Endurance Complete Its Work

### ■ James 1:2-4

- Trials often reveal our weaknesses, aspects of our personality that we need to refine. If we endure those trials, however, our Christian personality becomes more complete, or sound. For example, we may become more patient, appreciative, and compassionate.

### ■ II Corinthians 4:1, 16

- Christian endurance; we must endure, not for a time, but *to the end*.



Enduring the Journey



# Putting This Together

## Endure Until The Harvest

### ■ Application To Our Life

#### I Corinthians 10:13

- “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and **God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.**”

