

# Stablish Your Heart

March 16, 2003

## James 5:7-15

### 1. Be patient – hold fast

- Endure suffering, persecution, mistreatment
  - Why be patient?
    - We are waiting for something – what?
    - Waiting for the coming of the Lord
- Like the farmer – waiting on the rains, former and latter
  - Doesn't harvest after first sight of growth – more growth to come if he waits for the latter rain.
  - Seedtime (early rain) and harvest-time (latter rain)

### 2. Stablish (strengthen, steadfast, sure-up, stabilize) your heart – how?

- Let your faith be firm - unwavering
- Practice what is right constantly and consistently
- Let your resolve (decision or declaration) for God and heaven be fixed
- We do this in conjunction with daily asking God to search our hearts
- Christ then stablishes our hearts unblameable in holiness (I Thes. 3:13)
  - **Romans 12:12** – Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer
  - **2 Cor. 4:8** – We are troubled on every side, but not distressed (worried or overcome); we are perplexed (complicated or full of difficulty), but not in despair (to lose all hope or confidence); (V9) Persecuted (harassed, grieved or afflicted), but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

## I Thessalonians 3:13

To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

## I Peter 5:10

But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.