

## Tolerance or Patience?

There have been many arguments and political discussions on the subject of tolerance. What does the Bible say on this topic?

Dictionary definitions:

Tolerance: having or showing understanding of other's beliefs, views, and practices.

Patience: calm endurance.

1. Do we need to be secure on beliefs and doctrine or show partiality to all people? Look up 1 Timothy 5:21.
2. What does crisis reveal...increased *or* decreased belief and faith? Let's look at these verses together:

James 1:1-5

"James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting. My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

### 3. Jesus Example

How did Jesus address people? Look up John chapter 4 and chapter 8.  
Is Jesus Patient?

How did Jesus address the Scribes and Religious Leaders? Look up Luke 11:37 – 54. Is Jesus Tolerant?

### 4. Where's the Love?

Is God just "LOVE?" Look up 1 John 4:7-21. Hint: God is love, *but in context...*

Is Love Patient or Tolerant? Look up 1 Corinthians 13:5.

### **In Response**

Let's look at James 1:1-5 again- "Let *patience* have her perfect work."

We need to ask God for wisdom to understand patience.

"And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." *Romans 5:3-5*

