

Diligence

Overview: The Fruit of the Spirit is powered by love but its foundation is your diligence (self-control). Get your PHD (Purity, Holiness and Discipline) by living a DEEP lifestyle (Diligent, Efficient, Effective, and Productive). Ps 42:7

A. Definitions

1) Webster:

- Discipline - a) Training that corrects, molds or perfects. b) Enforcing obedience or order. c) Bringing under control. d) Imposing order.
- Self-Control - Restraint exercised over one's own impulses, emotions or desires (*plus words, thoughts and actions*).
- Diligence - persevering or consistent, energetic application and effort.
- Patience - a) Steadfast despite opposition, difficulty or adversity.
b) Joyful endurance.

2) Scriptural Synonyms (Characteristics).

- Discipline, diligence, self-control, patience, temperance, moderation.

3) Disciple.

- One who continues in the Word of God. Jn 8:31-32
- One who is a hearer and a doer. Matt 7:20-27

4) Fruit of the Spirit.

- KJV - Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, **temperance**.
- ABC - Love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, humility, **self-control**.

5) Super-conqueror.

- One who is persistent throughout all challenges. Rom 8:35-37

6) Son of God.

- He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. Rev 21:7

B. The Discipline of Diligence

"When you chase perfection, you catch excellence" by Vince Lombardi, Green Bay Packers.

- 1) The hand of the diligent makes you rich. Pro 10:4
- 2) God rewards those who diligently seek Him. Heb 11:6
- 3) Diligence in appropriating the promises of God through applying eight Godly character traits will ensure that you never fall. 2 Pet 1:3-10
- 4) A share in the Heavenly Kingdom is sought with most ardent zeal and intense exertion. Mt 11:12 Am
- 5) Through faith and patience (by practice of patient endurance and waiting) we inherit the promises Heb 6:12 Am
- 6) I keep my body under and bring it into subjection. 1 Cor 9:27

C. The Diligence of Warfare

“Failing to prepare is preparing to fail” by John Wooden, UCLA.

- 1) Live in the Armor of God. Eph 6:10-18
- 2) Let your moderation be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Phil 4:5-6
- 3) Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 2 Tim 2:3
- 4) No one that wars entangles himself in the things of the world. 2 Tim 2:4
- 5) Friendship with the world is enmity with God. Jam 4:4
- 6) Everyone that strives for mastery is temperate in all things. 1 Cor 9:25

D. Discipline in the Ending Days

- 1) In your patience, you will possess your soul. Luke 21:19
- 2) Patience will keep you from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Rev 3:10
- 3) If you kill with the sword, you must be killed with the sword. Rev 13:10
Here is the faith and patience of the saints.
- 4) ... whosoever receives the mark ... drinks of the wrath of God. Rev 14:9-12
Here is the patience of the saints: here *[are]* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.
- 5) Watch and pray that you may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man. Luke 21:36
- 6) And he spake a parable unto them *[to this end]*, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Luke 18:1-8
I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, Luke 18:1
when the Son of man cometh, **shall he find faith on the earth?** Luke 18:8