Endurance

Genesis _____

1. Introduction

In the life of faith there are many virtues: love, chastity, purity, obedience, etc. Endurance or perseverance is also an important virtue.

2. Jacob's endurance

When Jacob struggled with the angel at the river Jabbok, Jacob was almost defeated. But his virtue was endurance, and he endured till daybreak, at which time the angel had to leave. Jacob won the victory!

When we think of endurance, we are always expecting some breakthrough. When you have no idea, if you get a brilliant idea it is a breakthrough. When there is no solution, and then a good solution comes, it is a breakthrough or victory. When you cannot pray, and then you reach God and you can pray in tears, it is a breakthrough in your prayer life.

3. <u>Endurance will break the barriers</u>

Whenever you want to accomplish something for goodness, there is a barrier, or a thick wall (sin, ignorance, oppression, etc.). This wall must be broken through. You have to go through the negative force, which is against what you want to fulfill. There may be pain and suffering, but you must face or do what you don't want or like to do. For the wall (indemnity) to be broken through, not only suffering, but also a time element is necessary. In other words, you must go through the suffering or pain for some time period, otherwise you cannot go beyond the suffering or pain. This is the principle; this is the meaning of endurance.

4. <u>Every cloud has a silver lining</u>

In many cases, we see only dark and thick clouds, and become hopeless and pessimistic. Then we give up and are defeated by the difficulties of life. This happens because we don't know the principle (restoration through indemnity), "time element of suffering." The more you endure, the more you are getting closer to the end, which is the victory.

5. <u>Reverend Moon</u> (you can find any example)

When Rev. Moon went tuna fishing, he couldn't catch even one tune for 21 days. While other with him were depressed because they couldn't catch even one, Rev. Moon was getting more and more excited because of the same reason: he knew the principle of endurance. He knew he was doing God's will; therefore the more he invested the more he knew result would come. Though no fish were being caught, he got excited every day because a big catch was coming closer and closer, day by day. After 21 days, he caught a giant tuna, and it continued every day.

6. <u>Conclusion</u>

First, you must be doing the will of God. Secondly, you must endure, and the victory will come. If you really experience this principle of time element (endurance), then you will know the meaning of the saying: every cloud has a silver lining.