



Tolerance

Definition – “The capacity for or practice of allowing or respecting the nature, beliefs, or behavior of others.” *The American Heritage Dictionary*

We Should Tolerate

★ The Weak

- ★ Romans 15:1-7 “We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please *his* neighbor for *his* good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, “*The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me.*” For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind *and* one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.”

We Should Tolerate

★ The Burdened

- ★ Galatians 6:2 “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

★ Our Enemies

- ★ Matthew 5:43-48 “You have heard that it was said, ‘*You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.*’ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more *than others*? Do not even the tax collectors do so? Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”

We Should Tolerate

✦ Being Wronged

- ✦ 1 Corinthians 6:7-8 “Now therefore, it is already an utter failure for you that you go to law against one another. Why do you not rather accept wrong? Why do you not rather *let yourselves* be cheated? No, you yourselves do wrong and cheat, and *you do* these things *to your* brethren!”

✦ The Sin of the World

- ✦ 1 Corinthians 5:9-10 “I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people. Yet *I* certainly *did not mean* with the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world.”

We Should Not Tolerate

★ The Sin We Commit

- ★ 1 John 3:4-9 “Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.”

We Should Not Tolerate

✦ Your Brother's Sin

- ✦ Galatians 6:1 “Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.”

✦ Conclusion

- ✦ **We should be tolerant of others, and expect the best from ourselves!**