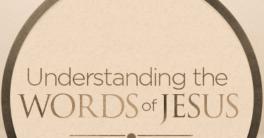
The Virtue Of Perseverance (Matthew 7:7-11)



John 6:63b

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Matthew 7:7-11

7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. **MOCKS IC** What is the shall be cut off: the shall the Lond shall help the time of trouble the shall deliver them from the mid do

9 Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he? 11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him! wicked shall be cut off." advation of the righteous is c

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Why do some people... Succeed in having their prayers answered? Have a greater understanding of the Bible? **Reach more souls for Christ?** -- Is it skill, genius, or luck?

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The answer is suggested by Calvin Coolidge:

"Press on! Nothing in the world can take the place of perseverance. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. educated derelicts." the time of trouble of trouble Education will not; the world is full of

In His sermon on the mount, Jesus talked about the virtue of perseverance... Especially in its relevance to prayer Giving us motivation to persevere in our service to God

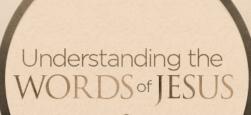
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I. THE PRINCIPLE OF "PERSEVERANCE" (7-8)



John 6:63b

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Matthew 7:7-11

7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. **MOCKS IC** What is the shall be cut off: the shall the Lond shall help the time of trouble the shall deliver them from the mid do **PERSEVERANCE IS IMPLIED IN THESE VERSES...** By the tense of the Greek It is the present tense, which most often stresses "continuous action" Literally, then, Jesus is saying: 1) "keep on asking," and it will be given to you 2) "keep on seeking," and you will find 3) "keep on knocking," and it will be opened to you the right out of the cut of the shall be cut off. and deliver them from the them, and deliver they trust in h: the wide deliver the form the shall be cut of the shall be cut off. By the progression of the terms themselves "asking" is one level of inquiry "seeking" suggests a step up, as one goes about to find what they ask (asking plus action,) "knocking" is another step up, as one persists in finding that which they seek (asking plus action plus persevering,) the LORD shall help them, and do

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PERSEVERANCE IS PARTICULARLY RELEVANT...

To the matter of "prayer" As later implied in Mt 7:11 Jesus often stressed persistence in teaching on prayer 1) In the parable of "The Persistent Friend" - Lk 11:5-8 2) In the parable of "The Persistent Widow" - Lk 18:1-8 the time of trouble is the the state of the state o

11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!

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Luke 11:5-8

5 Then He said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and goes to him at midnight and says to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; 6 for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; 7 and from inside he answers and says, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' 8 I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs. help them, and from the

7 and from inside he answers and says, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' 8 I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs. riched shall be cut off." advation of the righteous is d

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Luke 18:1-8

18 Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart, 2 saying, "In a certain city there was a judge who did not fear God and did not respect man. 3 There was a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, 'Give me legal protection from my opponent.' The shall be call of the state of the shall be call be cal

4 For a while he was unwilling; but afterward he said to himself, 'Even though I do not fear God nor respect man, 5 yet because this widow bothers me, I will give her legal protection, otherwise by continually coming she will wear me out.

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6 And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge *said; 7 now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them? 8 I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?" Content shall be cut off. advation of the righteous is c

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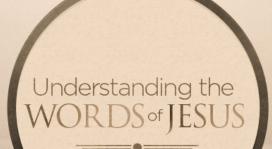
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To the matter of "Bible study"

Many people give up too soon in their Bible studies, but those who persevere in their studies are the ones who benefit from the blessings God's Word provides -

Ps 1:1-3;119:97-104



John 6:63b

Psalm 1:1-3

1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. 3 He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season And its ot wither, And does, he prospers. the time of trouble them from the wind do leaf does not wither; And in whatever he

Psalm 119:97-105

97 O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. 98 Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies, For they are ever mine. 99 I have more insight than all my teachers, For Your testimonies are my meditation. 100 I understand more than the aged, Because I have observed Your precepts. the Lond shall help them of troi shall deliver them from the mind because they trust in h: the time of trouble

101 I have restrained my feet from every evil way, That I may keep Your word. 102 I have not turned aside from Your ordinances, For You Yourself have taught me. 103 How sweet are Your words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth! 104 From Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way. 105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. ignt to me the time of troi the Lond shall help them, and hall deliver them from the wi n the time of trouble To the matter of "evangelism" Many do not bear fruit because they give up too soon But we reap what we sow; the more persistent we are in sowing, the more we will eventually reap the wicked shall be cut off.

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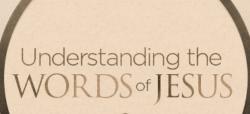
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A MOTIVE FOR PERSEVERANCE (9-11)



John 6:63b

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