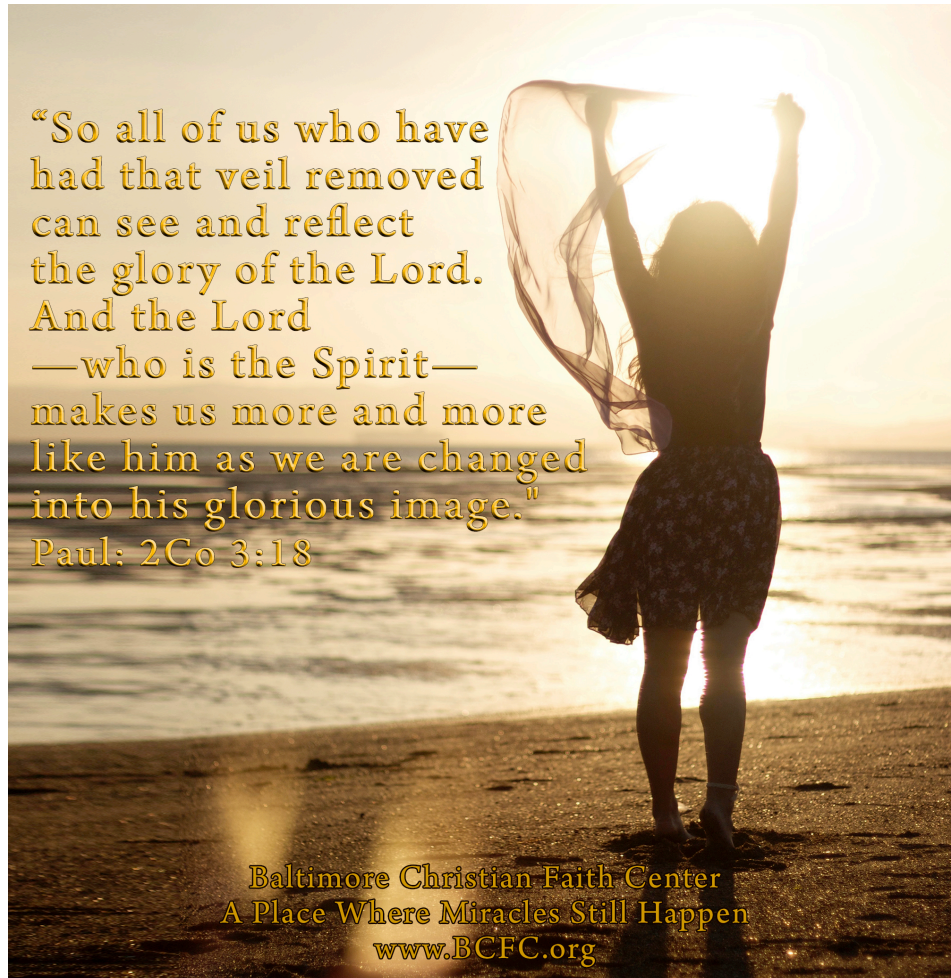


# Patience Like This is Unheard Of!

## Pastor's Desk – November 18, 2018



One of the greatest disfavours we can bestow upon ourselves is to have a torn heart with bitterness! Bitterness will cause us to become dull and senseless in our hearts! The Psalmist Asaph expressed that in Psa 73:21-22, “When I was beleaguered and bitter, totally consumed by envy, I was totally ignorant, a dumb ox in your very presence.” (MSG) That's quite a statement coming from someone whose life was entirely dedicated to praise and worship our God! Yet, this tells me that even those of us who strive to be closer to God on a daily basis are not immune to these plagues called bitterness and envy!!! Bitterness and envy will lead people to act as "dumb oxen." Sadly enough, many fall victim to this horrible condition.

The intriguing part is that our God is the one who gets the short end of the stick! Our ignorance and dumbness hinder us from perceiving His presence in our lives all along, even when we are acting up! The good news is, despite of all our nonsense, He has not given up on us, even in times when we fail to acknowledge His daily leading and guidance!

Asaph went to say: Psa 73:23-25, "I'm still in your presence, but you've taken my hand. You wisely and tenderly lead me, and then you bless me. You're all I want in heaven! You're all I want on earth!" (MSG) Gosh, this blows my mind away!!! Patience like this is unheard of. You've got to be the God of Israel, the God of all compassion! How much more wonderful can our God possibly be???

It's like He is saying: "Let my love enfold you in the radiance of my glory. Sit still in my presence, and receive my peace; experience what true love is all about!" It's like He is screaming, "These quiet moments with Me transcend time and all the hardship you're going through right now. It accomplishes far more than you realize. All I ask of you is a bit of your time. Watch and see how abundantly I will bless, love, guide and lead you to a glorious destiny!" The NLT says it so beautifully, "Yet I still belong to you; you hold my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, leading me to a glorious destiny."

I will end with the words of the apostle Paul: 2Co 3:18, "So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image." (NLT)

May bitterness and jealousy never establish residence in our hearts. We don't want to continue to hurt such a loving and patient God with our dumb oxen's behavior from time to time!

In His service, your fellow servant,  
Pr. Paul