

The Ministry of Reconciliation.

1. The time for it is _____.

• Isaiah 49:8, Isaiah 55:6, 2 Corinthians 13:5-6

- There will be a time when it is too late to be reconciled.
- Only you and God know if you have true, saving faith.
- Am I saved or have I received the Gospel in vain, wasted it?

2. It requires _____ due to the _____.

St. Chrysostom termed the opening list as a “blizzard of troubles,” and it is certainly that as troubles shower in triplets, from all angles. ~R. Kent Hughes 2 Corinthians: Power in Weakness, page 132

- A. General hardships. Romans 8:35
- B. Hardships from persecution.
- C. Hardships from ourselves.

[ὑπομονή hupomone] No single English word can fully express its rich meaning, which encompasses bearing up under hard labor, surviving the shock of battle, and remaining steadfast in the face of death. ... [I]t does not describe the grim, stoic, weary acceptance of trials, but rather faith, hope, and joy in anticipation of future glory. The word might best be rendered “triumphant patience.” ~John MacArthur 2 Corinthians, page 226-227



3. It _____ us.

A. Fruit is produced.

➤ What fruit is my endurance producing?

B. The fruit is supernatural.

➤ What kind of fruit is being produced in me and who is producing it?

C. We are prepared for battle. Ephesians 6:11-18, James 4:7

Strength and immovability is what God wants from us and what He provides to us as believers when we face spiritual battles. ~adapted from John MacArthur 1 Peter, page 287

4. It is full of _____.

- A. People’s opinion versus God’s opinion. John 7:17
- B. Earthly reality versus heavenly reality.

5. It is _____ by love.

➤ I love others because God loves me. (1 John 4:19 paraphrase)

What did God speak to me about today?

What practical step will I take in response?

What real, tangible choice am I going to make?

