



[Ecclesiastes 7:8](#)

(8) Better *is* the end of a thing than the beginning of it; the patient in spirit *is* better than the proud in spirit.

A Faithful Version

Solomon's approach is not with [God](#) in mind as our example, but that patience is prudent in our dealings with others and events. Solomon shows patience to be a very valuable attribute that brings us success in endeavors and favor in other's eyes. We should not dismiss patience's value because of this more secular perspective because it has definite, overlapping spiritual value as well.

It is interesting that Solomon connects impatience to pride. He observes that the impatient haughtily seize on something before its conclusion is worked out, while the patient see a thing to its end and are rewarded. Does this principle not apply to God working with us?

[Proverbs 14:29](#) holds a similar thought: "He who is slow to wrath has great understanding, but he who is impulsive exalts folly." Patience grows from a combination of [faith](#), hope, love, and self-control. As these two proverbs and many more reveal, we should cultivate patience because it shows understanding and because it is wise. Wisdom produces success, and being successful in glorifying God is what life is all about.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[The Fruit of the Spirit: Patience](#)

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Ecclesiastes 7:8 (<http://www.theberean.org>)

Related Topics:

[Patience](#)

[Pride](#)

[Self Control](#)

[Self Mastery](#)

[Slow to Wrath](#)

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