

THEME: SEVEN DEADLY CONTROLLERS

TOPIC: WHAT IS IMPATIENCE & WHY ARE PEOPLE IMPATIENT?

TEXT: ROMANS 8:5-8, PSALM 37:7-8, ECCLESIASTES 7:9, JAMES 1:19-20

Introduction

The fifth controller of our series on the Seven Deadly Controllers is *Impatience* and today we are starting the study by answering the questions; “What is Impatience & why are people Impatient?”

WHAT IS IMPATIENCE?

1. Impatience is the action or by-product of people going for the things they desire and are most times unable to wait for as long as it could take. It is the inability to delay gratification, the inability to apply self-control to either one's actions or reactions to situations.
2. Impatience in effect makes people to not want to wait and to want things so badly that they are willing to jump the rungs of the ladder to just get to the top. Sometimes irrespective of who it may hurt. **Proverbs 14:29**
3. An impatient man becomes irritable with anything that causes delay. Most impatient people would not readily admit that somebody else's gratification is behind their drive to want it now in order to be able to match up to the other person.
4. Impatience is a restless desire for change and excitement. It is certainly a mark of immaturity. Unless a child is trained to wait, most times, a child would want to grab that which is dangerous or immediately begin to eat hot food.
 - It requires therefore the control, direction and management of the parent for the child to know that patience is required to enjoy the hot meal or it might turn out to be regretful.
5. Impatience results in restlessness. It withdraws the serenity, the peace that should be a benefit enjoyed by the believer. It destroys the calm which is known to be associated with the Holy Spirit.
6. Impatience makes one to dislike anything that causes delay. **Proverbs 21:5 (KJV)**
 - It does not immediately help one to see that certain delays may be divine because God is setting up something better.
7. Impatience is an act of anxiety, particularly when there is an expectation for something to happen. If the fruit of the Spirit is patience, it therefore means that the manifestation of the flesh is impatience. **Galatians 5:22 (NIV).**

And once the believer begins to walk in the manifestations of the flesh he has denied the Holy Spirit the opportunity to work through him.

The mistakes of the impatient are many, once he is not led by the Holy Spirit. **Romans 8:14.**

8. Impatient people are unable to endure any form of hardship, trial or challenge. Impatience makes people easily give up in the face of battle, at the arena of trials or when confronted with challenges that require them to go another level in enduring.
9. Impatience is characterised by extreme uneasiness of mind or brooding fear about an issue. It is usually fed by the phobias we begin to develop around a matter, e.g. fear of flying.
10. Impatience makes you to lose your peace and focus more on circumstance than on the Lord. This same uneasiness can be applied in different areas of one's life. If you are believing God to have your own child and there is a delay in fruit bearing, an impatient man may succumb

to pressure from his family if he comes from cultures where they elevate children above the sanctity of marriage.

WHY ARE PEOPLE IMPATIENT?

1. Impatience is a product of intolerance for delay. As long as you live in this flesh and on this planet, if you do not cause delay, other people might. Once you let other people's actions or reactions control your life, it also means that your peace will be withdrawn and you are unable to enjoy peace every day you walk in impatience.
2. People are impatient sometimes also because they earnestly desire to make progress. But progress is not made by losing your cool, it is made by understanding that your path shines since you have God. **Proverbs 4:18**
3. People are impatient because they are always in a hurry. Hurry is the death of good things. Hurry is the death of prayer. Hurry is the death of favour. Hurry is the death of relationships. A man in haste is a man in danger. Certain businesses require haste but no business requires impatience.
4. Impatience may be coming from a deeper root of natural rudeness and aggressiveness. Some people by nature are aggressive, are rude because they want their gratification. They want what they want at the time they want it, the way they want it and because they want it so badly, they cut corners and don't mind on whose toes they step in order to reach where they are going. Impatience destroys, it steals peace in that kind of context.
5. People are impatient because they are unhappy with the now. Again, there is nothing wrong with a holy dissatisfaction with every present achievement or position in life. However, that does not give room for a blind ambition that becomes self-destructive and takes away the joy of daily living, the joy of knowing God and walking in His favour.
6. Some are impatient because they compare and measure themselves with other people. **Hebrews 13:5**. In writing to Timothy, a young pastor in a metropolitan city like Ephesus, Paul challenges the young man to let him know that godliness with contentment is great gain. **1 Timothy 6:6**
7. People are impatient because they cannot wait and they do not know that delayed gratification is a sign of maturity.

CONCLUSION

It is great to desire to be prosperous, make progress, know the favour of the Lord, and enjoy all of God's blessings. However it is important to know that God will pace you, prepare you, and mature you so that you will be able to handle what He is bringing. And once the believer becomes impatient, the very blessing he desires or covets, turns around to destroy him/her.

Proverbs 1:32

How many have been impatient to try to reach levels they were not prepared for because they were trying to be like somebody else. The discovery and pursuit of your destiny is necessary for you to keep your focus and reach your finishing line. People are impatient because they cannot wait and they do not know that delayed gratification is a sign of maturity.