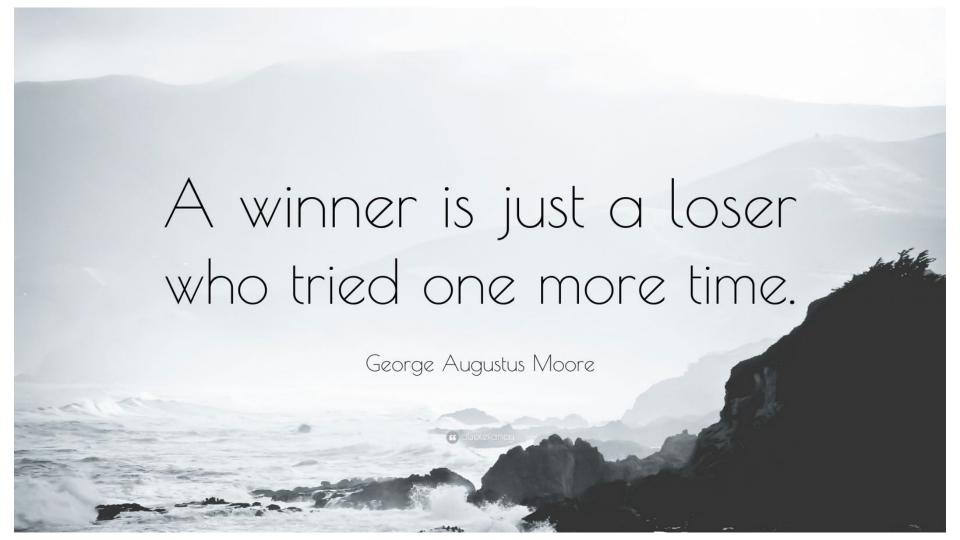
The Importance of Perseverance

Romans 5:3-5

{3} And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about **perseverance**; {4} and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; {5} and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us. [Romans 5:3-5 NASB]



Exodus 14:13-14

{13} And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, **stand firm**, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. {14} The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep your peace."

Jehoshaphat's Encouragement

{17} You will not need to fight in this battle. **Stand firm**, hold your position, and see the salvation of the LORD on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.' Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed. Tomorrow go out against them, and the LORD will be with you." [2 Chronicles 20:17 ESV]

The greatest oak was once a little nut who held it's ground. -Anonymous

Rules of War

{10} Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. {11} Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. {12} For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. {13} Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to **stand firm**.

{14} **Stand** therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, {15} and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. {16} In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; {17} and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, {18} praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, [Ephesians 6:10-18 ESV]

Persevering Saints

- Abraham 24 years to have a son (99 years old)
- Jacob 20 years serving Laban
- Moses 40 years in the wilderness (80 years old)
- Joshua and Caleb 40 years in the wilderness (80 years old entering the Promised Land)
- David lived in the wilderness running from Saul for about
 15 years
- Ezekiel 22 years of prophetic ministry

Remember Your Reward

{1} Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved. [Philippians 4:1 ESV]

{35} "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil [men.] [Luke 6:35 NASB]

Remember Your Reward

{24} By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, {25} choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, {26} considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward. [Hebrews 11:24-26 NASB]

Don't Believe God is a Liar

Hebrews 6:17-20 (ESV) 17 So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, 18 so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. 19 We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, 20 where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Abraham

{8} By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. {9} By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. {10} For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

{11} By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. {12} Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore. [Hebrews 11:8-12 ESV]

Derrick Redmond video