**Scripture:** Numbers 14

**Singing:** 399 – 233:2-3, 5-6 – 420:5-6 – 4

Intro: Who is more to be celebrated for his patience than Job?

A. To be and remain ignorant of God, has terrible results for us personally

1. It is fatal to your soul and comfort now and hereafter

a. ignorance of God makes us worse than fools

b. ignorance of God makes us fearful

c. ignorance of God makes us arrogant

d. ignorance of God is a most dishonoring sin

**The God of Patience (1)**

I. The Glory of His patience II. The Revelation of His patience

III. The Objects of His patience IV. The Worship of His patience

**I. The Glory of His Patience**

A. God’s patience is *not just enduring human race* in all its evil

1. The Scriptural names of this patience:

B. God’s patience is mostly His power over Himself (Winslow)

1. Consider Numbers 14:15-25

2. Consider Nahum 1:1-3

3. Consider Rom. 9:22-23

a. tolerating evil is His eminent power of Himself

● God’s power is more seen in *His patience* than in *wrath*

● The power of God is more manifested in His patience to a

multitude of sinners than it could be in creating millions of worlds out of nothing: for creating worlds is power over things. (Charnock)

● Prov. 16:32 *He that ruleth his spirit is better than he that*

*taketh a city*

4. Consider yourself: Gen. 6:5

**II. The Revelation of God’s patience**

A. God’s patience is perfection that seems like a central link in the golden

chain of God’s attributes (Winslow)

● God’s patience is the *temporary silence of His justice* and the *first*

*whisper of His mercy (Charnock)*

● His patience is not *being soft or weak over evil*

B. How does God reveal His patience in our personal life?

1. He endures us long, though evil very much: Ezek 11:5; Gen. 6:5

2. By giving repeated warnings of His judgment: Matt. 10:28; 11:20-24

3. By extending His arm of mercy to receive us: Is. 55:7-8; Matt. 11:28

● Charnock: *He first waves the white flag of peace before black one*

*of war; He offers peace before He shakes off the dust of His feet!*

4. By *waiting so long to lead sinners to repentance*: 2 Peter 3:9

Close: None of us can charge God anymore for being *unjust*!

God’s patience with Law-ignorant sinners is wonderful.

God’s patience with Gospel rejecting sinners is a mystery.

God’s patience with ill-natured and unthankful saints

is the greatest mystery.