



What Can I Do To Keep My Christian Life In Order? by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: "What can I do to keep my Christian life in order, when everything around me seems to be changing?"

REPLY: To be sure, there is a great deal that is changing about our immediate world. **A Christian will come out better than before, though. I'm immediately thinking of the biblical words "confidence" and "patience."**

- 1) "Confidence" is based upon trust and reliance, and a Christian's "confidence" in God is dependent upon Jesus Christ: "And we have such trust through Christ toward God" (**2 Corinthians 3:4**). The Bible rightly says, "It is better to trust in the LORD Than to put confidence in man" (**Psalms 118:8**). It's not wrong to have confidence in some people, however, as Paul said, "And we have sent with them our brother whom we have often proved diligent in many things, but now much more diligent, because of the great confidence which we have in you" (**2 Corinthians 8:22**). Our world can easily be shaken, though, if we put total confidence in all people to do all things rightly according to God's instructions.
- 2) "Patience" is the quality of steadfastness or perseverance, and, according to Jesus, is our response to whatever situations that could jeopardize our souls. He said, "By your patience possess your souls" (**Luke 21:19**). This is the commendable attitude of the prophets of the Old Testament: "My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience. Indeed we count them blessed who endure" (**James 5:10-11**). It is the product of outside pressure placed upon one's faith:

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. (**James 1:2-4**)

In fact, Paul showed the "ladder" of development in a Christian's character:

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. (**Romans 5:1-4**)

- 3) Truly, the times can be disconcerting, but a Christian has a hope to cling to throughout turbulence that is the "anchor of the soul, both sure and

steadfast" (**Hebrews 6:19**). Consider this "shakedown" that is going on as a trial of faith, and Christians will remain "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that you labor is not in vain in the Lord" (**I Corinthians 15:58**). Remember Solomon said: "In the fear of the LORD there is strong confidence, And His children will have a place of refuge" (**Proverbs 14:26**).

— JTPII February 10, 2019