# Perseverance

# He that shall endure unto the end,

# the same shall be saved.

# *(St. Matthew 24:13)*

# Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

# *(Romans 12:12)*

**I have fought a good fight,**
**I have finished my race,**
**I have kept my faith.*****(2 Timothy 4:7)***

# Recall those earlier days when, after you had been enlightened,

# you endured a hard struggle, you had compassion for others,

# you cheerfully accepted injustice,

# knowing that you possessed something better and more lasting.

# Do not therefore, abandon that confidence of yours;

# it brings a great reward.

# For you need endurance, so that when you have done the will of God,

# you may receive what was promised.

# *(Hebrews 10:32, 34, 35-36)*

# “It was about time,” said Michael Wilmington in the Chicago Tribune. After four decades of superior filmmaking – and five Oscar snubs – Martin Scorsese finally won an Academy Award for directing The Departed, a gritty cops-and-mobsters picture. *(The Week magazine, March 9, 2007)*

**Elizabeth Blackwell (1821-1910) was the first American woman physician. She studied privately at first, in 1845, and was finally – after many rejections – admitted to Geneva Medical College, in Geneva, New York. After being graduated she went to Europe to continue her studies, returning to the United States in 1853 with her sister Emily, who was by then also a physician. They trained Union Army nurses during the Civil War. In 1868, Elizabeth helped found the Women’s Medical College of the New York Infirmary. In 1869, she moved to England and spent the rest of her life teaching and working to advance medical opportunities there for women. *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 244)***

# Dr. Robert Atkins: For 30 years Atkins preached the virtues of a low-carbohydrate diet; for 30 years steak-loving Americans wanted to believe him; and for 30 years their doctors told them not to. But in 2002 several studies appeared to support Atkins’ unconventional approach, and the medical establishment is finally starting to come around. Fortunately that crow they’re eating is strictly high protein. *(John Corbett & Nia Vardalos, in the December 30, 2002/January 6, 2003 issue of Time magazine)*

**It is the irresistible power of enthusiasm that was the driving force thatenabled Cyrus W. Field to endure nearly thirteen years of anxious watching and ceaseless toil and over thirty voyages across the Atlantic Ocean, before he successfully laid the Atlantic cable. *(Joe Griffith, in Speaker’s Library of Business, p. 105)***

# Perseverance is a lowly virtue whereby mediocrity achieves an inglorious success. *(Ambrose Bierce, writer)*

# Big shots are only little shots that keep shooting. *(Christopher Morley, author)*

# Be like a postage stamp. Stick to one thing until you get there. *(Josh Billings, humorist)*

**Humphrey Bogart was not the first choice to play in any of his major films. Hollywood wanted Edward G. Robinson for The Petrified Forest, Ronald Reagan for Casablanca, and Gregory Peck for The African Queen. But Bogey hung in and won the parts*. (Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 24)***

# If you attack the establishment long enough and hard enough, they will make you a member of it. *(Art Buchwald)*

# Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept trying when there seemed to be no hope at all. *(Dale Carnegie)*

# The measure of achievement is not winning records. It’s doing something that you appreciate, something you believe is worthwhile. I think of my strawberry souffle. I did that at least 28 times before I finally conquered it. *(Julia Child)*

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# Here is the answer which I will give to President Roosevelt. We shall not fail or falter; we shall not weaken or tire. Neither the sudden shock of battle nor the long-drawn trials of vigilance and exertion will wear us down. Give us the tools and we will finish the job. *(Sir Winston Churchill, British politician, in a 1941 radio speech)*

# Sir Winston Churchill took three years getting through eighth grade because he had trouble learning English. *(Glenn Van Ekeren, in Speaker’s Sourcebook, p. 276)*

# As Winston Churchill put it when asked to describe the most important lesson life had taught him, “Never give up, never give up, never ever give up.” *(Roger Van Oech, in A Kick in the Seat of the Pants, p. 19)*

# Winston Churchill did not become prime minister of England until he was 62, and then only after a lifetime of defeats and setbacks. His greatest contributions came when he was a senior citizen. *(Joe Griffith. in Speaker’s Library of Business, p. 250)*

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# I was in front of my mirror, smoothing cold cream on my face and trying to get ready for Mass, when my 4-year-old walked into the room. “What are you doing?” she asked. “Just trying to make myself pretty,” she replied, removing the cream with a tissue. “Mommy, wait!” she cried. “Don’t give up yet!” *(Janett L. Grady, in Catholic Digest)*

# In the confrontation between the stream and the rock, the stream always wins – not through strength but by perseverance. *(H. Jackson Brown, in A Father’s Book of Wisdom)*

# A diamond is just a lump of coal that stuck to its job. *(Leonardo da Vinci)*

# Michael Blake, author of Dances with Wolves and winner of an Academy Award for the movie adaptation, has shunned the best-seller book tour to visit children in libraries and high schools. He has lectured to journalism students at a Manhattan school and met with homeless youngsters at a branch of the Brooklyn Public Library. “I tell them that if you stay committed, your dreams can come true,” the author says. “I’m living proof of it. I left home at 17 and had nothing but rejection for 25 years. I wrote more than 20 screenplays, but I never gave up.” *(Susan Heller Anderson, in New York Times)*

# A chemist, Paul Ehrlich, discovered a drug to treat those who were afflicted with syphilis. It was named “Formula 606” because the first 605 tests had been failures. *(Dr. Charles Dickson, in New Realities magazine)*

# **A lot of people give up when the world seems to be against them, but that’s the point when you should push.** *(James Dyson, who spent 15 years testing more than 5,000 prototypes of vacuum cleaners before he came up with the bagless model, which has become the best-selling vacuum in the U.S.)*

# Thomas Alva Edison, one of history’s most successful inventors, tried 6,000 different materials in his search for a filament for his light bulb, including a fishline, a blade of grass, a hair from an assistant’s head, before he settled on a charred length of sewing thread. *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 48)*

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# It’s not that I’m so smart, it’s just that I stay with problems longer. *(Albert Einstein)*

# I think and think for months and years. Ninety-nine times, the conclusion is false. The hundredth time I am right. *(Albert Einstein)*

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**A** hero **is no braver than an ordinary man, but he is braver five minutes longer. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)**

# Just don’t give up on trying to do what you really want to do. Where there’s love and inspiration, I don’t think you can go wrong. *(Ella Fitzgerald, singer) 521983*

# I realized early on that success was tied to not giving up. If you simply didn’t give up, you would outlast the people who came in on the bus with you. *(Harrison Ford, the biggest-grossing movie star of all time, who used to make his living as a carpenter until he got his first major role at 35)*

# Life is an endless struggle of frustrations and challenges, but eventually you find a hairstyle you like. *(www.coolsig.com)*

# The first and final thing you have to do in this world is to last it and not be smashed by it. *(Ernest Hemingway)*

# Every calling is great when greatly pursued. *(Oliver Wendell Holmes)*

# Great works are performed not by strength, but by perseverance. *(Samuel Johnson)*

# No one would ever have crossed the ocean if he could have gotten off the ship in a storm. *(Charles F. Kettering)*

# Champions keep playing until they get it right. *(Billie Jean King, tennis star)*

**A beautiful girl took director Mario Costa’s eye on a street in Rome, but he nearly didn’t sign one of filmland’s top sex symbols. At first the young art student thought Costa was looking for a pickup. But Costa persevered and finally convinced her that he was a director, later introducing us to Gina Lollobrigida. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 5)***

# Susan Lucci, the hard-luck actress, who portrays Erica Kane on All My Children, finally won a Daytime Emmy after earning her 19th best actress nomination for Erica Kane on All My Children. *(Associated Press, 1999)*

# Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after another. *(Walter Elliott, Scottish politician)*

# Today’s mighty oak is just yesterday’s little nut that held it’s ground. *(Clifton Burke)*

# Mom never took no for an answer. She’d go around the wall. She’d go over the wall. She’d try to get people to help her. From my earliest days I saw that perseverance. *(Meg Whitman, head of eBay, who turned the small website into a multibillion-dollar business)*

# With time and patience the mulberry leaf becomes a silk gown. *(Chinese proverb)*

# The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese. *(Willie Nelson)*

# Good week for: Never giving up on love, after 83-year-old Paul Tredo of Kansas City, Missouri, tied the knot with 98-year-old Fern Schurr. “Suddenly there she was, and it became evident that she was the one I wanted to be with,” said Tredo. “It’s never too late, you’re never too old.” *(The Week magazine, December 2, 2011)*

# Most people give up just when they’re about to achieve success. They quit on the one yard line. They give up at the last minute of the game one foot from a winning touchdown. *(H. Ross Perot)*

# Postage stamps are getting more expensive, but at least they have one attribute that most of us could emulate: they stick to one thing until they get there. *(Bits & Pieces)*

# Peter Mark Roget, the author of the famous Roget’s Thesaurus, was a doctor by profession. Working in his spare time, it took him fifty years to finish the book. *(Paul Stirling Hagerman, in It’s a Weird World, p. 59)*

# I do not think there is any other quality so essential to success of any kind as the quality of perseverance. *(John D. Rockefeller)*

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# When you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on. *(Franklin D. Roosevelt)*

# Franklin D. Roosevelt was struck down by polio, but he persevered. Unable to walk, he proved to people across the world he could lead as president of the United States. FDR never made excuses because of his disability. He just kept on pressing on. *(Glenn Van Ekeren, in The Speaker’s Sourcebook, p. 275)*

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# Shakespeare said, “We are such stuff as dreams are made on. History rings with people who believed in their dreams and persevered to see those dreams come true. *(Glenn Van Ekeren, in The Speaker’s Sourcebook, p. 275)*

**By perseverance the** snail **reached the Ark. (Spurgeon)**

**Dana Carvey's dream of doing standup** comedy **almost ended at a club in Berkeley, California, when he was a shy 22-year-old. “I watched all the comedians do their acts,” says Carvey, “and I sat there snugly thinking, I can do better. Then came a comedian who was so outstandingly brilliant that I felt like a total failure. I thought, If there's a lot of guys like this around, I should give up now.” But Carvey persevered -- and so did that hot comic who nearly derailed his career. “It was Robin Williams,” Carvey says with a sigh. “Luckily there aren't many of him around.” (Kim Cunningham, in People Weekly)**

**The saints are the sinners who keep on going. *(Robert Louis Stevenson)***

# When nothing seems to help, I go and look at a stonecutter hammering away at his rock, perhaps a hundred times without as much as a crack showing in it. Yet, at the hundred and first blow, it will split in two, and I know it was not that blow that did it, but all that had gone before. *(Jacob A. Riis)*

# When you get into a tight place and everything goes against you till it seems you could not hold on a minute longer, never give up then – for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn. *(Harriet Beecher Stowe)*

# Thre are two ways of attaining an important end – force and perseverance. Force falls to the lot only of the privileged few, but austere and sustained perseverance can be produced by the most insignificant. Its silent power grows irresistible with time. *(Bits & Pieces)*

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**Westinghouse was treated as a mild lunatic by most railroad executives. “Stopping a train by wind! The man’s crazy!” Yet he persevered and finally sold the air-brake idea. *(Paul Lee Tan, in Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations)***

# Another man was regarded as moderately deranged by most railroad executives when he suggested a train could be stopped – using wind. Yet George Westinghouse persevered and finally sold to the industry what is now known as the Westinghouse Air Brake, a standard feature on American trains. *(Dr. Charles Dickson, in New Realities magazine)*

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# Wizard of Oz – took 20 years to break even. *(John Eastman, in Retakes)*

**Out of the first four stores E. W. Woolworth opened, three failed. But, as you know, he kept at it. *(Derric Johnson, in The Wonder of America, p. 38)***

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