

Running the Race in 2024 - (Heb 12:1-2)

VII. A Better Hope: (Ch 12:1-29)

A. The Example of Christ. (Vs 1-3)

1. Exhortation to run the race. (Vs 1)

- a. The cloud of Heavenly Witnesses.
 - 1.) Those who formerly ran the race (Ch 11)
 - 2.) Written To encourage the Hebrew saints
- b. Compassed about, earthly Witnesses:
 - 1.) Spouse, kids, G-kids: (Phil 2:15-16)
 - 2.) Brother's & Sister's in Christ:
 - 3.) Coworkers, Neighbors: (Matt 5:16)
- c. Dedicate to be Deliberate & Disciplined
 - 1.) Laying aside of Weights.
 - a.) Not part of our calling.
 - b.) All that hinders us from going forward.
 - (1) Spiritual progress.
 - (2) Effectiveness of our testimony.
 - c.) All unnecessary things. (1 Cor 9:24-27)
 - 2.) Laying aside of besetting sins
 - a.) Appear attractive, but also hinder.
 - b.) Sins distract us from our goal.
 - c.) Sin of unbelief, disbelief: (Jn 16:7-9)
- c. It requires patience: (Heb 6:12)(Heb 10:36)
 - 1.) Steadfastness.
 - 2.) Endurance.
 - 3.) Patience
- d. Questions we need to ask ourselves in 2024?
 - 1.) Did Our Lives glorify God in 2023?
 - a.) How will our Lives glorify God in 2024?
 - 2.) Did Our Lives Magnify the Name of Jesus?
 - a.) How it magnify the name of Jesus 2024?

- 3.) Will Our Purpose of life bring others to Christ?
- e. Rules to Follow in the Christian race of 2024.

- 1.) Wait upon the Lord: (Is 40:31)
- 2.) Be Gospel Focussed: (Gal 2:2)(Phil 2:16)
- 3.) Keep the Faith: (2 Tim 4:7)
- 4.) Abstain from appearance of Evil. (1 Thes 5:22)
- 5.) No Fellowship w/unfruitful works: (Eph 5:11)
- 6.) Separate from the world unto God (2 Cor 6:17)
- 7.) Present our bodies to the Lord. (Rom 12:1)
- 8.) Be dependable stewards. (1 Cor 4:1-2)

2. Look unto Jesus: vs 2

- a. "Looking" Intently, constantly, to Jesus ONLY.
- b. Jesus arrived at Faith's Goal.
- c. Joyous: (Ps 40:8)(Heb 10:17)
- d. Jesus Looked beyond the cross.
- e. Set down.

3. Consider Jesus: (vs 3)

- a. Draw the comparison between you and Christ.
- b. Do we suffer contradiction as He did?
- c. Not to faint. Keep pressing on: (Gal 6:9)