

Hokmah

“Wisdom”

11th August 2017

Life is a race that has been set before the believer. Since we are in a race, we do not want to get entangled in unnecessary things in life that will hinder us from reaching God’s goal for us. The race God has set before us is one that will take endurance. In this race, we are told by God to make sure that we have our eyes fixed on Jesus. Our Jesus is the example of running the race. Jesus is both the author and perfecter of our faith. The joy that was set before Him, which was securing a people for Himself from among sinners, caused Him to endure the pain and torture of the cross. That gained Him a seat at the right hand of the Father in heaven.

This example, left to us by Jesus, is the encouragement we have to also run the race before us with joy. The joy comes from knowing that we are serving the one true God and it is He who has given us a future and an eternal hope. When fixed on Jesus, we have all that we need to run this present race with endurance. This race is worth finishing and it is worth finishing well.

It says in [Hebrews 12:3](#), “For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” The author goes on to tell us, that though our race is difficult, we have not yet resisted the world to the point of giving up our lives. That is certainly true of us in America and in many other places in the world. This verse teaches us that the way we are helped in finishing our own race is to keep our eyes on Jesus and to consider what He went through. We must know what He did, why He did it, and how that can encourage us in our own race to win the prize of faithful service at the end of our days.

This life is not for the purpose of building personal empires or monuments to ourselves. No, we are all about Jesus and the mission He assigned to us. He has endured more from sinners than we have endured. He worked for the ultimate good of His people at His own expense. His reward included a people who love Him and a position in the universe that is higher than all other positions in life. The point is, there is great reward for serving Jesus well, in a world that hates us, and often seeks our deaths. Jesus did not grow weary and Jesus did not lose heart. We are to do the same.

There is opposition to the ministry of the Gospel. In this fallen world, that has always been the case. There is no time in history where believers did not face trouble from the unbelieving world. Jesus faced hostility and shame from mankind, but He kept on. The trouble we encounter along the racetrack of life is a form of discipline and discipline makes us better as we run. Jesus was committed and determined. With the power of God He moved forward to win His race. We have the opportunity to follow in His footsteps and win our races, the ones that the Father has assigned to each of us.

Let the life of Jesus be your inspiration for keeping on. Let His accomplishments encourage you that you can accomplish your God given goals with the presence of the help of the Holy Spirit in you. Don’t let the entanglements of the world trip you up. Keep

your eyes on Jesus. He will win the day and He will see you through to the end. Don't stop running. Stay the course. The prize is worth the effort. The prize is when Jesus says to you, "Well done, you good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of the LORD that He has prepared for you." Consider Jesus!

In Jesus,
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