

Christian Endurance – Hebrews 12

Run with endurance the race set before us – 12: 1 – 3

- a. **Believers have been given many examples of living by faith – 1 (Heb. 11)**
- b. **Believers must remove the distractions, relationships & sins that keep us from living by faith -1**
- c. **Believers must run with endurance the race – a contest the life of faith in Jesus Christ - 1**

Endurance – lit. patient endurance – a spirit to hopefully put up with things, patient continuance

Heb. 10:36 – you have need of endurance so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what was promised

Rom. 5: 3 – we exult in our tribulations knowing that tribulation brings perseverance – endurance

Rom. 15:4 – whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance – endurance we might have hope.

Col. 1:11 – strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for the attaining of steadfastness – endurance and patience

2 Thess. 3:5 – may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the steadfastness – endurance of Christ

James 1:3 - 4 – knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing

Race is sometimes translated – fight

1 Tim. 6:12 – fight the good fight of faith

2 Tim. 4:7 – I have fought the good fight

Race is sometimes translated – conflict

Phil. 1: experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear to be in me

Race is sometimes translated – struggle

Col. 2:1 – I want you to know how a great a struggle I have on your behalf

Race is sometimes translated – opposition

1 Thess. 2:3 – but after we had already suffered and been mistreated in Phillipi, as you know we had boldness in our God to speak to you the gospel of God amid much opposition

d. Believers must look to Jesus our example of endurance – 2

- 1. Fixing our eyes on Jesus – lit. looking to... faith is the conviction of things not seen – 11:1

- 2. Jesus is the author & perfecter of our faith

Heb. 2:10 – for it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings

- 3. Jesus with joy endured the cross & the shame of the cross

Heb. 2:9 – But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

- 4. Jesus has sat down enthroned in heaven

Heb. 1:3 – He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high

e. **Believers must meditate on Jesus example of endurance – 3**

1. Consider – lit. to think, to reckon up, to count up
2. Consider such hostilities of sinner against Himself

John 1: 11 – He came to His own and those who were His own did not receive Him.

His opposition from the religious leaders

His trials & beatings before the Romans

His painful death on the cross

3. You will not grow weary & lose heart when you think about Jesus enduring suffering

Endure the discipline of God – 12: 4 – 11

When we grow weary & lose heart we are guilty of two things: 4 -5

a. **Weary believers must remember that they have not died in resisting sin**

b. **Weary believers must not forget God's word to them as children of God**

Prov. 3:11 -12 – Promise of God's discipline for His children

c. **Believers must not ignore the discipline of the Lord 12:5**

Pr. 3:11 – My son do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord

Discipline – Lit. life training & physical correction – disciplinary correction

Jer. 5:3 – O Lord, do not Your eyes look for truth? You have smitten them, but they did not

weaken, you have consumed them, but they refused to take correction. They have made their faces harder than a rock, they have refused to repent

Jer. 19:15 – they have stiffened their necks so as not to heed My words

Amos 4: 6,8,9,10,11,- Yet you have not returned to Me

d. **Believers must not despair the discipline of the Lord 12:5**

Ps. 39:10 – remove your plague from me I am consumed by the blow of your hand

Ps. 73:14 – for all day long I have been plagued and chastened every morning

Jud. 6:13 – but now the Lord has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites

Pr. 24:10 – if you faint in the day of adversity your strength is small

e. **Believers should remember that God's discipline is fatherly love for His children 12:6**

Pr. 3:12 – for those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, and He scourges every son whom He receives

Lam. 3:19 – 22 – The Lords lovingkindnesses never cease, for His compassions never fail

Ps. 119:67, 71 – before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word...It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes.

f. **Believers endure to receive God's fatherly discipline – 12:7 It is for discipline that you endure**

g. **All believers experience God's fatherly discipline – 12:8**

h. **Believers must willingly submit to God's fatherly discipline – 12:9**

Lam. 3: 19 – 32 – let him sit alone and be silent...

i. **God's fatherly discipline is for good & to form holiness – 12:10**

j. **God's fatherly discipline is sorrowful but it's training brings peaceful fruit of righteousness – 12:11**