

**August 12, 2007**  
**Hebrews 12: 1-3**

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**Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.**

- I. **Verse 1** Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us

A. **Therefore...**

B. **Since we are surrounded by so great cloud of witnesses...**

- i. Surrounded ( \_\_\_\_\_ )...like a great stadium full of people.
- ii. Great a cloud...many in number or a dense multitude
- iii Witnesses-

C. **Let us lay aside every weight, and sin which ensnares us...**

- i. Weight...what does this mean? I believe he is referring to something different than sin, but the \_\_\_\_\_ and it's \_\_\_\_\_.

Eph. 4:22-24

- ii. Sin which so easily ensnares us...
  - a. The major sin here is \_\_\_\_\_, which is the root of other sin (Col. 3:8, anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth, and on and on.)

**D. And let us run with endurance the race that is set before us...**

- i. The word run here is in the present tense which tells us that the race is a \_\_\_\_\_! Christianity is not something that you start running in and then decide to take a break or rest. How are we to run the race??
- ii. With endurance (\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_)
  - a. We run until \_\_\_\_\_!

II. **Verse 2** looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**A. Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...**

- i. Author-
- ii. Finisher or perfecter-

**B. Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame...**

- i. Who for the joy that was set before Him
  - a. Jesus persevered so that He might receive the joy of accomplishment of the \_\_\_\_\_ and exaltation.

**Phil. 2:8-11** And being found in the appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and those on the earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- ii. Endured the cross, despising the shame...
  - a. Despise-
  - b. If we are going to have His endurance we must be able to \_\_\_\_\_ as well.

**C. And has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

- i. The word “sat” indicates that His race is \_\_\_\_\_.
- ii. This is the pattern for us as well, but right now we should still be\_\_\_\_\_.

III. **Verse 3** For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

**A. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself...**

- i. Consider...think about what Jesus endured...the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ from sinners.

2Tim. 3:12

**B. Lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.**

- i. Believer’s pressures, exhaustion and persecutions are as nothing compared to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Conclusion:**