

Series "Jesus Is Better"
"Finishing Well"
Hebrews 12:12-17
Study-31

Hebrews 12:12-17

Hebrews 12:11

John 15:16

Hebrews 12 – Hope

The Thought Of Our Passage: "Believers Must Personally Show Fresh Commitment And Determination, And A Renewed Concern For One Another."

1. Verses 12-13 – Straighten-Up/Straightforward

2. Verses 14-17 – Pursuing Peace And Holiness

1. Verses 12-13 – Straighten-Up/Straightforward:

Hebrews 12:12

"Therefore," – Discipline is from God our Father for His children.
Hebrews 12:10-11

Verse 12 – Straighten-Up

Job 4:3-4

Isaiah 35:3

"hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble," – This is Jewish imagery of attitudes of discouragement and despair!

"strengthen the hands" – This is a command, "strengthen" literally means "straighten up, make upright or straight, lift up." A word by which we derive the English word "Orthopedic". The imagery is that of a man frozen with fear and anxiety.

Hebrews 4:16

Hebrews 12:2

"that are weak" – literally "hands which remain beside the body in inactivity."

“and the knees that are feeble,” – “paralyzed knees”

Straighten-Up: Read the Bible, pray, fellowship with the godly, attend the services and help serve others!

Verse 13 – Straightforward Conduct

Proverbs 4:25-27

“and make straight paths for your feet,” – “level, straight a path that the lame and disabled will make it on.”

The Concern That All Should Finish The Race: “so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint,”

The Author Has Been Stressing Togetherness: Hebrews 3:13

Hebrews 4:1

Hebrews 4:11

Hebrews 6:11

Hebrews 10:25

“but rather be healed.” – Jesus Christ restored the paralytic (John 5) to a normal walk by the power of His authoritative Word.

2. Verses 14-17 – Pursuing Peace And Holiness:

Hebrews 12:14

“5 Problem Passages In Hebrews”

Problem passage #5 – Defying the Word – 12:14-29 (Refusing To Hear) – 5th and final problem passage.

Pursue Peace: “Pursue peace with all men,” – “Give peace a chase as if in a hunt, aggressive pursuit”; Hebrews 7:1-2 – Jesus Christ with His High Priestly title as “King of Peace.”

David said – Psalm 34:12-15

Apostle Paul said – Ephesians 4:3

“with all men,” – Matthew 5:44-45

Matthew 5:9

Romans 12:18

Pursue Holiness: "and the sanctification" – (Holiness) "a process of yielding our lives to God, and becoming righteousness." The believer reflects God's virtues!

Hebrews 7:1-2 – Jesus' High Priestly title as "King of Righteousness."

Positional Holiness: Hebrews 10:10

Present Holiness – Demonstrated: Hebrews 2:11

Completed Holiness: 1 John 3:2

"without which no one will see the Lord." – Romans 5:1

If A Person Is Truly Saved And Yet Not Growing In Holiness, There Is The Loss Of Spiritual Privilege, Not Salvation.

Verse 15 – Wrong Attitudes: Hebrews 12:15

"See to it" – literally means "oversight"; it is "looking diligently"; (Command is Plural) making it everyone's responsibility.

Galatians 6:1-2

3 Negative Attitudes To Be Avoided:

- 1. Don't Waste God's Grace:** "that no one comes short of the grace of God;" Hebrews 4:1

Hebrews 3:12

James 4:6

Both justification and practical sanctification are achieved by the grace of God, not through a system of legalistic works and temple observances. Hebrews 4:16

"one comes short of the grace of God;" – How does this happen? Unconfessed sin. Keeping oneself from the Scriptures. Mark 12:24

By isolating oneself from fellowship! Ephesians 3:17-19

- 2. Stop The Root Of Bitterness:** "that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble,"

**Moses Used The Image Of The Bitter Root,
Apostasy/Idolatry – Deuteronomy 29:18**

The verb "trouble" means "to crowd within"; To crowd out.

This Is A Call To Vigilance – Persons who miss God's grace and have fallen away are a bitter root!

- 3. Stop The Defilement Of Conscience:** "and by it many be defiled;" Titus 1:15

"defiled" – The verb indicates "that which can stain or dye."

Verses 16-17 – An Example Of The Defiled: Hebrews 12:16

Sexual Sin: (The Body) no immoral; Greek word pornos we get the word pornography. Hebrews 13:4

Verse 16 – Esau's Sin Of Being Godless: (Soul) "godless person like Esau," – This word "godless" is based upon the Greek term for "threshold", outside the temple, or not belonging to God. A profane person thus "tramples on spiritual matters and treats them casually."

Esau's Physical Sin, Sold His Birthright: "who sold his own birthright for a single meal."

Genesis 25:34 – "Thus Esau despised his birthright."

Genesis 25:29-34

Verse 17 – Esau's Loss Of The Blessing: Hebrews 12:17

"afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected" – "was rejected" in that it was already given to Jacob.

"for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears." – "there was no opportunity for him to change his circumstances."

Hebrews 6:6

Application:

1. Drooping Hands And Weak Knees Have A Depressing Effect On Others. Despondency Is The Devils Tool, Not Only Hindering Us, But Depressing Others.
2. What Is Needed In The Christian Race Is Not Sudden Burst Of Energy But Steady And Persistent Exertion To Finishing Well.
3. A Believer Can Make A Decision To Disobey God For Materialistic Reasons And Find It Impossible To Reverse The Future Consequences Of That Willful Act.