

**Series "Jesus Is Better"**  
**"Run For Your Life"**  
**Hebrews 12:1-3**  
**Study-29**

**Hebrews 11-13 – A Superior Principle of Faith**

**Hebrews 11 – Faith; "The Victories of Faith"**

**Hebrews 12 – Hope; Hebrews 12:2 – fixing our eyes on Jesus,** (Hope Is Jesus Christ)

**The Thought Of Our Passage:** "OT Saints Had Only The Promise. NT Saints Have The Fulfillment Of The Promise And Therefore See Jesus."

- 1. Verse 1 – The Appeal**
- 2. Verse 2 – The Example**
- 3. Verse 3 – The Need**

**1. Verse 1 – The Appeal:**

Hebrews 12:1

"Therefore," – (What is the therefore, there for?) Hebrews 11 commended the acts of faith of various godly men.

Hebrews 11:39-40

The Cloud: "have so great a cloud" – (great mass of clouds, a host of people); The metaphor refers to the great amphitheater with the arena for the runners and the tiers upon tiers of seats rising up like a cloud.

"witnesses" – two meanings: "a person who watches the scene before him; his eyes and ears tell him what happens" and it also means "a person is able to talk about what he has seen and heard."

"great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us" – Not in the sense of "spectators" but a (Cheering Section); God bore witness to them, Hebrews 11:2.

Hebrews 11:4-5

Hebrews 11:39

1 Corinthians 11:1

## **These witnesses of faith can inspire us but they cannot strengthen us! Matthew 4:19**

Good Things Can Encumber Us: “also lay aside every encumbrance” – Literally “the weight that hinders”; “having put away from.”

Evil Things Will Entangle Us: “and the sin which so easily entangles us,” – or “well surrounded”.

**“Good things can encumber us, but evil things will entangle us!”**

Colossians 3:8

James 1:21

1 Peter 2:1

1 Timothy 4:7

How We Must Run: “and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,”

2 Timothy 4:7

### **4 Commands Are Given Regarding The Race:**

#### **1. All Believers Are Contestants: “let us”**

Romans 8:16

Romans 9:16

Paul often referred to the Christian experience as a race.  
1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Galatians 2:2

Galatians 5:7

Philippians 2:16

#### **2. Running Persistently: “let us run” – It could be translated, “Let us keep on running.”**

#### **3. Running With Endurance: “with endurance” – it must be done “with patience”; the determination to finish in spite of pressures.**

Isaiah 40:31

Romans 15:4

#### **4. Running The Race From God:** "the race that is set before us,"

The term "race" transliterates as "agony".

### **2. Verse 2 – The Example:**

Hebrews 12:2

"fixing our eyes on Jesus," – "a definite looking away from others and directing one's gaze towards Jesus and keeping it fixed on Him, to trust Jesus, an attitude of faith."

Hebrews 2:9

Hebrews 3:1

2 Timothy 1:12

**Through eyes of faith, enlightened by the Word, we see the resurrected and enthroned Christ!**

"Jesus" – (Humanity) God in the flesh; The compassionate Son of man.

Numbers 21:4-9

John 3:14-16

We Should Look At Jesus Because He Is The Author: "the author" – "founder, pioneer" of faith.

We Should Look At Jesus Because He Is The Perfecter: "and perfecter of faith," – Christ is also "the finisher".

Jesus' Attitude: "who for the joy set before Him"

Isaiah 53:11

"endured the cross," – (The Passion Of Jesus)

"despising the shame," – Galatians 3:13

Matthew 27:46

The Enthroned Lord: "and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 1:3

### **3. Verse 3 – The Need:**

Hebrews 12:3

"For consider Him" – It is a compound word with the literal translation "to reason up"; "stresses serious, perceptive contemplation."

The English "analogy" is a transliteration of the Greek term.

Jesus, The Patient Sufferer: "who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself," – The term hostility "contradiction", literally means "speech against".

1 Peter 2:21-23

Why We Must Consider Jesus: "so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." – "runners who are exhausted and collapse after the race."

### **Application:**

1. Good Things can Encumber Us, But Evil Things Will Entangle Us.
2. We Are To Look To Jesus: Through Eyes Of Faith, Enlightened By The Word, We See The Resurrected And Enthroned Christ.
3. The Great Witnesses Of Faith Can Inspire Us But They Cannot Strengthen Us, Only Jesus Can.
4. Why We Must Consider Jesus: So That You Will Not Grow Weary And Lose Heart.