



1

Hebrews 12:1-3

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, laying aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

2

Running with Endurance

1. The Incentive

- we are intimately and inseparably joined to the faithful who have gone before us
- they both “witness” *to* us (as examples) and *of* us (as spectators) – testifying to the life of faith

3

Running with Endurance

2. The Exhortation

- we must persevere in faith and obedience so that we might finish the race (inherit the promise)
- we must dispense with anything that would hinder us from successfully running the race of faith

4

Running with Endurance

2. The Exhortation

- we must continually fight against unbelief which easily impedes our running and causes us to turn away from Christ

5

Running with Endurance

3. The Means

➤ *Fixing our gaze on Jesus*

- *Pioneer and Perfecter* – He has both initiated and completed the way to enter God’s presence
- He is able now to do everything necessary to aid us in this race, and bring us safely to the finish (cf. Heb. 2:14; 4:16)

6

Running with Endurance

- We must continually look to Jesus as our perfect High Priest who assures our final access to God and gives present grace to endure