

RUN WITH PATIENCE

Hebrews 12:1-4

INTRODUCTION:

A. Many people have served God acceptably

- 1) Abel offered an acceptable offering
- 2) Noah built an ark
- 3) Abraham obeyed

B. Faith was the foundation of their service

- 1) "For by it the elders obtained a good report" 11:2
- 2) It is impossible to please God without faith
- 3) When you look for a successful servant who pleases God, look for faith, it is the foundation.

I. Instructions On Patient Running vs 1

A. "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses..." vs 1

- 1) "wherefore" = *τοιγαρουν* = "therefore then" " A triple compound inferential particle to draw a conclusion of emphasis making *Hebrews 12:1-3* the climax of the whole argument about the foregoing verses." Linguistic Key To The Greek New Testament Rienecker/Rogers
- 2) "compassed" = *περικειμαι* = "to lie around", "to be laid around", "to surround"
- 3) "cloud" = *νεφος* = "an indefinite, cloudy mass"
- 4) "witnesses" = *μαρτυς* = "one who remembers and therefore has information or knowledge of a thing, one who can bring to light or confirm a thing."
- 5) "Seeing, therefore that there is on every side of us such a throng of witnesses..." TENT
- 6) This does not present the idea of our being in an area surrounded by spectators.

B. "...let us lay aside every weight..."

- 1) "lay aside" = αποτιθημι = "to lay aside from one's self", "to lay aside one's clothing"
- 2) "weight" = ογκος = "bulk", "mass", "a swelling", hence, an incumbrance, perhaps weight and clothing.
- 3) "let us throw off every impediment" WMS

C. "...and the sin which doth so easily beset us..."

- 1) "sin" = αμαρτια = "missing the mark", "failure" Not so much an action, but the evil principle.
- 2) "beset" = ευπεριστατος = "standing well around", "easily surrounding", hence, "a sin that has every advantage of it's victim and therefore has great possibility of success"
- 3) It probably doesn't refer to one specific sin
- 4) "and the sin that so readily entangles us"

D. "...and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,"

- 1) "run" = τρεχω = "to hasten", "to hurry"
- 2) "patience" = υπομενω = "to remain behind when others have gone", "to bear up under", "to endure patiently"
- 3) "race" = αγων = "place of assembly", "a stadium", "a course", "a place of struggle", "a contest"
- 4) "set before" = προκειμαι = "to be laid or set forth"
- 5) "And let us run with perseverance and endurance the course that God has marked out and set before us."

II. The Example God Points Us To vs 2

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

- 1) "looking" = αφορω = "to look away from one thing and to concentrate on another", "to look away to"
- 2) "author" = αρχηγος = "pioneer", "beginning", "with article", "the princely leader" An example to all.

- 3) "finisher" = τελειωτης = "the completer", "one who brings to the goal"
- 4) "Looking away unto our faith's Princely leader and the one who will bring completion, Jesus..."

B. "...who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross..."

- 1) "joy" = χαρα = "delight", "gladness"
- 2) "set before" = προκειμαι = "to set before anyone" (this is the same as we have seen in vs 1)
- 3) "endured" = επομενω = "to remain under" (same as "patience" in vs 1)
- 4) Christ endured and completed the act of redemption. He knew the joy He would feel, having completed the task God laid before Him.

C. "...despising the shame..."

- 1) "despising" = καταφρονεω = "to treat as contemptible"
- 2) "shame" = αισχυνη = "the shame of disgrace"
- 3) "Steadily endured the cross, caring nothing for its shame" GSPD

D. "...and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God"

- 1) "set down" = καθιζω = "to take one's seat" The perfect tense indicates that He is still there.
- 2) "And who has now taken his place at the right hand of God's seat of power" BAS

E. "For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself,..."

- 1) "consider" = αναλογιζομαι = "to reckon up", "to count up", also, "to meditate on"
- 2) "endured" = υπονεμω = "to remain under"

- 3) "*contradiction*" = ἀντιλογία = "a speaking against", "controversy", "in opposition to"
- 4) "Give constant, serious thought to Him who steadily endured all that hostility from sinful men." MOF

F. "...lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds."

- 1) "*wearied*" = κάμνω = "to work one's self weary", "to make one's self ill"
- 2) "Lose your purpose" Get too tired!
- 3) "*faint*" = εκλυομαι = "to release", "to let go"
- 4) "Get tired and give up"

G. "Ye have not yet resisted unto blood,..." vs 4

- 1) "*resisted*" = ἀντικαθίστημι = "to stand in opposition against", "in line of battle"
- 2) "You have not had to shed blood yet in the struggle against sin" MOF
- 3) They had not yet shed any blood in their experiences as Christians, that was the criterion they should use.

H. "...striving against sin."

- 1) ἀνταγωνίζομαι = "to be a competitor in a contest", "to strive very earnestly"
- 2) They had suffered much (vs 32-33) but they have not yet suffered as did Jesus!