

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith,

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who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup>Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

—Hebrews 12:1-3 ESV

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## The Event

“Who’s watching whom?”

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A witness can be two-fold:  
one who is observing,  
one who is representing.

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Can God be trusted?

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Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. —Hebrews 3:12 ESV

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## The Encumbrances

“Why are we often hindered?”

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Let us go on.  
Hebrews 2:1; 3:12; 4:2, 15-16;  
5:11-12; 6:11-12; 10:36; 11:6

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Sins = Trip you up  
Weights = Hold you back

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“Most of us in the Christian life are not impeded by prolonged sinfulness, but rather by the toleration of allowable, innocent, and even praiseworthy things that have allowed us to divert from getting to the finish.” —Alistair Begg

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“Every earthly pursuit, however innocent in itself, when it interferes with cultivation of Christian dispositions and the practice of Christian duties, becomes a weight which must be laid aside.”  
—John Brown

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All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not. —1 Corinthians 10:23 KJV

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So many people spend too much  
time asking, "Is it a sin?"  
The issue is, "Does it help me win?"

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**The Endurance**  
"What must we never forget?"

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**I Corinthians 9:24-26**  
**Philippians 3:12-16**

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**The Exhortation**  
"How can we get to the finish line?"

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"Looking unto Jesus..."

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Note to media: The following  
screens are for Lord's Supper

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“On the cross Jesus laid aside the weight of His glory to take on the shame and burden of our sin.”

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Looking to Jesus because He is the ...

## Acceptable Substitute

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But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.—Hebrews 2:9 ESV

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Looking to Jesus because He is the ...

## Absolute Sacrifice

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<sup>11</sup>But when Christ appeared as a High Priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) <sup>12</sup>He entered once for all into the holy places,

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not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup>For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh,

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<sup>14</sup>how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

—Hebrews 9:11-14 ESV

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Looking to Jesus because He is the ...

## Assurance of Salvation

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<sup>12</sup>But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God, <sup>13</sup>waiting from that time until His enemies should be made a footstool for His feet. <sup>14</sup>For by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

—Hebrews 10:12-14 ESV

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