

Wed Night



FRESH ENCOUNTER

FINISH THE RACE

MAY 22, 2024 | PAUL CHOI

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." (Hebrews 12:1-3)

INTRODUCTION

- Writer of Hebrews unknown
 - * Many suspect Paul is the writer
 - * But others have proposed Apollos
 - x he was a Jew from Alexandria
 - x he was a great speaker & well taught in Old Testament (Act 18:24)
- the race is living the life of faith
- race of life (1 Cor 9:24, 2 Tim 4:6-8)

1. WE MUST BE Ready FOR THE RACE (vs 1)

- preparations for the race
 - * surrounded by large size of witnesses
 - * Many witnesses listed in Heb 11
- lay aside every sinful weights
- recognize snares of sin
 - * sin(s) are are traps to trip us
- A. Realize the encouragement of witnesses
 - witnesses are examples
- B. Remove the encumbrances that stop you from running
- C. Resist the entanglements of animal traps of sin

2. WE MUST BE Resiliant IN THE RACE ^(vs 1-2)

- resilient means endure hardships & trials
- great physical effort to run marathon of great distance
- Gal 6:9 Do not get tired of doing good
- 1 Cor 15:58 always abounding in God's work

A. The agony & shame of cross of Christ

B. The assurance of Christ's work
- salvation of sinners

3. WE MUST BE Renewed IN THE RACE ^(vs 2-3)

- looking to Jesus (our example)
 - * endured the cross
 - * despising the shamed
- Jesus yelled loudly, "It is finished."
(Mt 27:50, Mk 15:37, Jn 19:30)
- Consider Christ who endured such contradiction of sinners

A. Focus on Christ

B. Follow a command

CONCLUSION

- Spiritual renewal
 - * 2 Cor 4:16 inward man renewed every day
 - * Eph 4:23 renewed in the spirit of your mind
 - * Col 3:10 new man renewed in knowledge of Christ
 - * Jn 15:56 Spirit of Truth... He shall testify of Me (Jesus)



VIEW THE NOTES ONLINE



Lancaster Baptist Church • 4020 E. Lancaster Blvd. • Lancaster, CA 93535
661.946.4663 • lancasterbaptist.org • Paul Chappell, Pastor