Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus

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INTRODUCTION

- Bannister's mile run changed everything.
- This is really the idea of the Hebrew writer that with Jesus, everything is better, and everything changes.
- This is what the Hebrew writer is saying about Jesus. Something has changed. Something is different now. Something is better than the way it used to be.

1 Jesus Is the Example

- As we run this race, as we're living for God and we are following Jesus, he is the fixation of our life. He is the focus.
- Heaven is a place, but it doesn't show us how to get there.
- It comes from fixing our eyes on the pioneer of faith himself.
- Despite all of these examples in chapter 11, Jesus is the example.

2 The Pioneer and Finisher of Faith

- This is about Jesus' faith. He is the one, he is the pioneer of faith. He is the finisher of faith.
- He's not the first person to have faith in God, but he is the first person that truly brought this to completion.
- We have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh.
- It's a new era of faith that is all found through Jesus Christ. And it is only through Jesus.

3 He Endured the Cross: Pain and Shame

- There's two elements of endurance that he talks about here. The first is pain, and the second is shame.
- The glory of men does not matter to him.
- He wasn't focused on what people thought. He was focusing on accomplishing the will of God.
- Look at Jesus. He went through the same things you went through, first of all, and he went through more than you're going through, second of all.
- Faith doesn't mean you do it until it gets hard and then you stop. That's not faith.

4 Seated at the Right Hand of God

- He endured the cross, and now he's seated at the right hand of God. He reigns with him. This is the end result.

- If we are faithful, if we run the way that Jesus ran, then we will share in his glory.

5 Discipline Is Training

James 1

- The idea of discipline here is really the idea of training.
- He has disciplined us or he's trained us for our good, that we may share his holiness.
- That word struggle is the same word in verse one, race. Your struggle, it's just your race.
- The first is that we recognize our weaknesses and we grow through them.
- The second one is it gives us the opportunity to demonstrate the strength of our faith and devotion to God.

6 Esau: A Lack of Endurance

- God doesn't promise the race will be easy or comfortable. But he does promise it will come with reward.
- Sometimes we give up something really important and valuable for something that's just as small as a single meal.
- That's what happens when we lack faith. When we won't endure.

THE CHALLENGE

We just have to fix our eyes on Jesus. Maybe this morning you need to start that process.

MY NOTES