Restoring Hope: We Who Have Come to Zion

Jared Bollman · Hebrews 12:18–28

INTRODUCTION

- Hope is the great stabilizing influence of our lives. Hope is the reason for our struggle against sin.
- Those are the minions of our adversary that he has sent into the world to tear down your hope.
- Our birthright is to overcome the world. Our birthright is to overcome the thing that tears down our faith.

1 Get Out of the Snare

Hebrews 12:1–3; Hebrews 11:1–6; John 14:1–6

- If we're going to overcome the negativity and we're going to embrace the hope, we're going to have to get out of the snare.
- Let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.
- Without faith, it is impossible to please him. For he who comes to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of those who seek him.
- Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. Not I'm faithful. God is faithful to the hope that He's given me.
- Hold on in your darkest hour, in your season of discontent, in your despair, in your trouble, in your frustration, in the time when you are tempted to give up your hope, hold on.

2 Find Joy in the Race

Hebrews 12:2–3; Philippians 4:4; Philippians 4:12–13

- There is no reason for us to get entangled in the snare, no reason for us to lose our hope, so much so that we ought to be the people who find joy in the race.
- Yes, there's difficulty, yes, there's struggle, yes, there's frustration, but there's joy in the race.
- Despising the shame is him looking at the cross and saying, I'll go through you to get to the joy.
- Brothers and sisters, we go through what we go through to get to the joy that's promised to us.
- Rejoice in the Lord always. And again I say, rejoice.

3 Give Our Courage to Our Brethren

Hebrews 10:23–25; Hebrews 12:12–14

- It means to take from one who has courage and to give it to one who does not.

- Let us consider how to stimulate, stir up one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, encouraging one another and all the more as you see the day drawing near.
- We need to be experts in taking from our strength and giving it to the weakness of our brethren.
- Things like gossip, things like division, things like disharmony and discord and evil speaking, those things hamper our ability to encourage one another.
- Strengthen one another, give courage to one another, give strength to one another, make each other's path easier to walk.

4 Take Strength in Where We're Standing

Hebrews 12:18–22

- We don't stand far off from the place where we're going.
- We are part of the general assembly of the firstborn, and we are standing at Mount Zion.
- But you have come to Mount Zion. This is the source of our hope.
- We come to a kingdom that does not shake with the voice of its Lord and God, because it was made to stand in his presence. That's your birthright.

5 Press On in Faith

- So let us go out to him outside the camp, bearing his reproach. For we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come.
- Whatever you think the end of your faith is, it's better than that.
- Whatever you think the birthright is of those who persevere in faith, it's better than that.

THE CHALLENGE

So let us go to His Son, bear the reproach, and do it willingly, because we too look through our cross and say, My God is on the other side, and I will not be kept from that eternity.

MY NOTES