Wednesday PM Nov 9, 2011

Dee Bowman · Hebrews 12:1–3

INTRODUCTION

- Faith is merely the presentation of some sort of information coupled with enough evidence to support the fact that has been affirmed, which produces a settled conclusion in the mind of the hearer.
- We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God because we believe the testimony presented by those who were there.
- You can take great joy in the fact that God knows your name. And he cares what happens to you.

1 Draw Strength From Those Who Witness Our Struggle

Hebrews 12:1

- That means compassed, surrounded with a great cloud of witnesses.
- Let us draw energy from those who witness our struggle. Let us draw strength from them.
- Let us not count our difficulties. Let us look forward and draw strength from those that went before us.
- Somebody walked like you walk. Somebody had the problems that you have.
- They went to the Word of God. They put their faith completely and totally in that, and even sometimes died for the fact of having done so.
- Look at Paul, look at Peter, look at James and John. Read them.

2 Rid Ourselves From All Encumbrances and Run With Endurance

Hebrews 12:1

- Lay aside every weight, every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us and run with patience the race that is set before us.
- The people that ran in the Olympics ran some of them naked. Because they did not want anything to get in the way of the goal that they had set to achieve.
- They want to say, I'm a Christian, but they won't endure any hardship.
- Run with endurance. Sometimes it's going to hurt to be a Christian. I'm not going to lie to you.
- But you turn to God. You turn to Him in prayer. And you say, Lord, lift me up. I'm going to press on.
- It's not always a positive endeavor. Sometimes it's really difficult. But we must maintain the course.

3 Looking to Jesus, the Author and Finisher of Our Faith

Hebrews 12:2

- Every group that turned around that last mile or so and saw that goal sped up. They saw the finish line.
- He is the author of it by giving us all the information that we need to identify who God is, why I'm here, what I'm to do while I'm here, and where I'm going when this is over.
- Be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. Inasmuch as you know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.
- We're going somewhere, folks. This world is not our home. We're just passing through here.
- What kind of joy could it have been to go to the cross? I'll tell you why. Because of you.

THE CHALLENGE

If you believe because of the evidence that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and you're willing to do what He says, repent of your sins and be baptized, you can walk away from this place a new person tonight.

MY NOTES