

HEB 12:1-13

- THE RACE OF FAITH -

START

"HOPE IS THE SOUL'S ANCHOR" --- "A HOPE THAT IS FIXED -- FIRMLY ON THE LORD JESUS" --

AS WE MOVE THROUGH THIS WORLD -- "THE BLESSED HOPE" OF THE COMING KINGDOM OF GOD -- MUST BE -- OR -- SHOULD BE "OUR GUIDING STAR" --

"HOPE" IS ESTABLISHED ON "OUR FAITH" --- "WHAT WE BELIEVE" --
"IF"

IT IS "FIRM ON JESUS" --- IT WILL DISCIPLINE OUR LIVES --

REMEMBER (CH 6: 11-12)

"BE DILIGENT TO THE FULL ASSURANCE OF HOPE" -- DON'T BECOME "SLUGGISH" -- BUT BY "FAITH" "PATIENTLY INHERIT" -- THE PROMISE --

THIS "HOPE IN HIM" -- HERE (VS 1-13)

-- WILL BRING "DISCIPLINE" IN OUR LIVES -- "IN TWO FORMS" --

① SELF-DISCIPLINE - (1-3)

② SPIRITUAL-DISCIPLINE - (4-13)

THE RACE TO SELF-DISCIPLINE - (1-3)

THE PATTERN OF DISCIPLINE IS SET FORTH
AS "A RACE"

WE HAVE ENTERED ^{THE RACE} IF SAVED BY
THIS FACT, BUT "THE COURSE" LIES AHEAD

THERE ARE 3 THINGS SET FORTH ABOUT THIS
RACE -- (1-3) (STADIUM, STRUGGLE, STRATEGY)

(A) THE STADIUM - (1a)

(1) A GREAT ASSEMBLY --

EACH ONE -- A SUCCESSFUL RUNNER --
AND WELL ACQUAINTED WITH THE;

(2) LENGTH OF THE COURSE &

(3) THE DIFFICULTY OF ITS NATURE ---

AS WELL AS
THE HINDERANCES ALONG THE WAY

THESE ARE NOT SIMPLY SPECTATORS -- BUT
~~WARRIORS~~ "VETERANS" -- WHO SUCCESSFULLY
(FINISHED THE COURSE) --

(2) FROM HEAVEN, THEY SEE US -- IN THE RACE --

WHAT AN INCENTIVE -- AN ENCOURAGING
THOUGHT = THEY ARE "CHEERING US ON"

(B) THE STRUGGLE - (16.c)

(LET US LAY ASIDE)

WEIGHTS + SINS = (16)

(1) WEIGHTS - (CAN BE HARMLESS IN THEMSELVES)

ATHLETES IN TRAINING - DELIBERATELY USE
WEIGHTS -

BUT

WHEN THE RACE IS STARTED - THEY ARE
CAST ASIDE - - - NOTE:

IT MAY BE (1) LOVE OF HOME & FAMILY -

(2) LOVE OF COMFORT -

(3) COMMITMENT & CONTENTMENT
WITH LIFE - - -

- WHICH CAN BE HANDICAPS - (LAY ASIDE)

(2) SIN - HARMFUL + MUST NEVER BE ALLOWED

(1) PERSONAL SINS = "THAT ~~ARE~~ ARE EASILY
ALLOWED" - - -

THEY ENSNARE US:

APPETITE - - - LASINESS, + PROCRASTINATION

SIN IS
A PART
OF LIFE ~

(1) POLLUTING SINS = "THEY DEFILE"

(1) LUST OF "FLESH" (PROVOKED BY) LUST OF "EYES" (SEEING EVIL)

(2) PRIDE OF LIFE = [I AM SOMEBODY] LEADS TO A
FALL -

~~LET US RUN WITH PATIENCE~~ LET US RUN WITH PATIENCE - (1c)

"LIKE A CROSS-COUNTRY RACE" -- NOT A DASH

→ ALONG THE WAY -- THERE ARE MANY
DISCOURAGEMENTS + DERAILMENTS -

WE ARE "NOT TRAPPED" INTO THIS RACE --
WE ENTER BY "GOD'S ENCOURAGEMENT"

AS HE URGES EVERYONE TO ENTER -

- IT IS SET BEFORE US -

- THE VOLUNTARY NATURE OF THIS UNDERTAKING -

WE CAN ~~OPT~~ "OPT" OUT OR TO
ENDURE TO THE END" -

BE DETERMINED TO RUN & FINISH -

"SO"

(C) THE STRATEGY - (2-3)

(1) OUR FOCUS - (LOOKING UNTO JESUS) (2)

LOOKING -- αφωραδ -- IT OCCURS ONLY
HERE -- AND MEANS:

"LOOKING AWAY FROM "ALL ELSE" TO THAT
WHICH -- FILLS THE HEART" -

NOT THE PRIZE AT THE END, BECAUSE IT WILL
"NOT SUSTAIN YOU"

NOT THE GLORIOUS CROWD OF SAINTS, BECAUSE
"THEY MAY FORSAKE YOU"

KEEP YOUR EYES ON JESUS - HE WILL
NEVER FAIL OR FORSAKE YOU

① THOUGHTS OF HIS PERSON - ②
(AUTHOR & FINISHER OF FAITH)
HE IS EXPERIENCED

AUTHOR = HE WILL BE A STEP OR TWO
AHEAD OF US - (TO LEAD THE WAY)
+
TO SHOW WHERE THE OBSTACLES
ARE & DIRECT OUR STEPS -

FINISHER = (A GUARANTEED SUCCESS)

② THOUGHTS OF HIS PASSION - ②
THE JOY, THE ENDURANCE OF THE CROSS,
"THE SHAME" - - - YET HE MOVED AHEAD
TO THE GOAL
- HE KEPT LOOKING & PRESSING -

② THOUGHTS OF HIS POSITION - (2c)

→ (SET DOWN AT RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD) →

HIS IS CROWNED + NOW --
LOOKING DOWN + LIVING WITHIN US
- (TO LEAD + TO GUIDE) -

① OUR FOCUS

② OUR FIRMNESS - ③ (CONSIDER HIM)
(TO KEEP YOU FIRM IN YOUR COMMITMENT)

CONSIDER = "RECKON UP", TAKE FULL
NOTE:

WHAT HE ENDURED & SUCCEEDED --
HE WON -- & WITH HIM IN OUR SITE & LIFE
WE CAN DO --

CONTINUE ON LOOKING AT JESUS --

OR YOU WILL GROW WEARY & FAINT

HERE = vs 1-3

NEED THE FORMULA FOR SELF-DISCIPLINE --
IN THE RACE OF FAITH

4-13

SPIRITUAL - DISCIPLINE -

II] THE REQUIREMENTS OF SPIRITUAL-DISCIPLINE -

VS. 4-13

"THE RACE OF LIFE" ^{"REQUIRE'S"} SELF-DISCIPLINE
WHICH (VS 1-3) LAYS DOWN THE PROGRAM -
FOR US:

① THE STADIUM -

"THOSE WHO WENT BEFORE US" - -
BE ENCOURAGED BY THEM -

② THE STRUGGLE -

(THE WEIGHT + SIN)
THAT DRAW OUR ATTENTION - AWAY FROM
THE PRIZE -

③ THE STRATEGY - (2-3)

"LOOK UNTO JESUS" - - "TRUST HIM"

HE RELEASES HIS POWER - IN OUR LIVES &
ENABLES US - TO RUN THE RACE -

NOW - (VS 4-13)

→ HE ASSURES US OF HIS LOVE -
BY

THE KEY WORD "CHASTENING" = "A GREEK WORD"
WHICH MEANS: "CHILD TRAINING", INSTRUCTION &
DISCIPLINE -

A GREEK BOY WAS EXPECTED TO "WORKOUT" IN THE
"GYMNASIUM" UNTIL HE REACHED "MATURITY" -
"THIS"

(PREPARED HIM FOR HIS ADULT LIFE)

THE SAME IS WITH OUR "SPIRITUAL LIFE"

IT REQUIRES

CHASTENING, TO MATURE US - (SPIRITUAL-DISCIPLINE)

TO:

MAKE US "PARTNERS" OF "HIS HOLINESS" - (10)

(VS 4-13)

COVER THE SUBJECT OF "GOD'S CHASTISEMENT"

OR "SPIRITUAL-DISCIPLINE"

DOES NOT INCLUDE ^(Required) "WHICH"
MARTYRDOM? (4)

WE HAVE NOT -

"BOY"

- DOES HAVE A "DIVINE PURPOSE" BEHIND IT -

NOTICE FIRST:

[SIN, AND ITS CONFLICT - (4)

THIS HAS A "PERSONAL APPLICATION":

YOU - OR YOUR ACTION -

THE ~~WOMAN~~ WRIGHTER IS SAYING:

[YOU MUST BE IN DEADLY EARNEST IN YOUR
RESISTANCE OF SIN -

AWARE

TWO IMPORTANT WORDS USED:

(A) STRIVING - (A)

THIS MEANS - (TO ANTAGONIZE)
TO AGONIZE "AGAINST SIN" -

HE POINTS OUT CHRIST:

THEY HAD NOT REACHED... THE SEVERITY OF
GETHESEMANE = "THE BATTLE" OF CHRIST -
GOLGOTHA = "THE DEATH" OF CHRIST -
"WHERE"

HE SWEAT BLOOD - AGAINST SIN - AND WAS -
SACRIFICED FOR THE SAINTS =

THOSE WHO BELIEVE & RECEIVE -

(YOU HAVE NOT... NOT REQUIRED - OF YOU)
"BUT"

(B) ~~RESIST~~ RESIST IN EARNEST -

(1) RESETTING SINS -

THOSE SINS IN LIFE - THAT TRIP US UP &
DRAW US AWAY - FROM "THE GOAL" -
&
BRINGS ~~US~~ US DOWN -

(2) CROWNING SINS - "APOSTATE" (FALSE PROFESSION)
EXPOSING NO CHANGE IN LIFE:

IN LIVES: WALK -
TALK -
WITNESS -

II SONSHIP, AND ITS CHASTENING - (5-8)

IF A SON IN CHASTENING COMES - IT IS -
THE LANGUAGE OF SONSHIP:

① A TEST OF DISCIPLESHIP - (5)

"THE EXHORTATION" - (PROV 3:11-12)

THE HEBREW BELIEVERS WOULD BE FAMILIAR
WITH THIS QUOTATION:

DESPISE NOT THE CHASTENING OF THE LORD -
NOR FAINT WHEN YOU ARE REBUKED OF HIM

HE SCOURGETH = (AFFLICTION OR CALAMITY)
HE CHASTENS = (THE DISCIPLINE OF GOD)

① TAKE IT "SOBERLY" -

- DON'T TREAT IT CARELESSLY - - - ASK
WHAT THE REASON IS - - (IT'S OK)
FOR

THE GREEK MEANING IS:

INSTRUCTION & EDUCATION - BY MEANS OF
"CORRECTION" - "SO"

- DON'T DESPISE IT - - - GOD IS BEHIND IT -
TO

- ESTABLISH FAITH + PERFECT
HOLINESS -

② TAKE IT SENSIBLY - (WITH UNDERSTANDING)

GOD'S DISCIPLINE IS MEASURED BY LOVE

⑤ TAKEN SPIRITUALLY - ⑥

- EVERY SON - HE RECEIVES - HE DESIRES
THEIR SPIRITUAL MATURITY -

⑧ A TOKEN OF DIVINE FAVOR - ⑨

- GOD'S "PERSONAL ATTENTION" - HE IS OUR
"PERSONAL TRAINER" -

→ "REGARD" - "REALIZE" - BEARING TRIALS
IS A PART OF "MORAL TRAINING" - AND
"PERSONALIZED" FOR YOU -

"DIVINE FAVOR" - OF - "A FATHERLY LOVE"

- WHAT SON IS HE WHOM THE FATHER CHASTENS NOT -

③ A TESTIMONY OF OUR DEDICATION - ④

→ THOSE WHO ARE - WITHOUT - "CHASTISEMENT" &
CLAIM TO BE - DEDICATED SONS - ARE
MAKING A FALSE CLAIM -

- REJECTING GOD'S DISCIPLINE - PROVES -
THE PERSON IS ILLEGITIMATE -

① IF YE ENDOURE - "SON"

② IF WITHOUT CHASTENING - "NOT A SON"

III BE SUBJECTIVE, TO THE SPIRIT - (9-13)
& TRAINING HIS CHILDREN - (II) "TRAINED"

(A) IN REVERENCE - (9) (IN SPIRIT)

OUR FLESHLY FATHERS - THOUGH NOT PERFECT -
"MAKE MISTAKES" - THEY :

- ① UNDERDISCIPLINE -
 - ② OVERDISCIPLINE -
 - ③ FAIL TO DISCIPLINE -
- YES, WE REVERENCE THEM

↳ SO ↗

GOD - (WHO MAKES NO MISTAKES) - "CHASTENS"
FOR OUR GOOD, & DRAWS US CLOSER TO HIM -

BECAUSE :

SPIRITUAL & ETERNAL LIFE - COME FROM
"GOD" - REVERENCE HIM -

(B) IN RIGHTEOUSNESS - (10-11)

- "OUR PROFIT" (10) HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS (10)
- HE GIVES, & YIELDS HIS FRUIT (11)
- "THIS IS OUR TRAINING" - (EXERCISED BY IT) (11)

(C) IN RESTORATION - (12-13)

- GET UP (12) (KN BE STRONG)
- GO FORWARD (13) (MAKE STRAIGHT PATHS)
- "BE RESTORED" & "AN EXAMPLE" TO THOSE WHO
ARE WEAKER - IN THE FAITH -

BE SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED

- CONCLUSION -

④ SIN MUST BE FORSAKEN - ②

RESIST IT = (DEFENCE DEFENSIVE)

STRIVE = (OFFENSIVE)

PREPARE TO ATTACK WITH:
PRAYER, SCRIPTURE, SPIRIT

② SUFFERING MUST BE FACED - ②

- A PROOF OF SONSHIP -
(FOR YOUR MATURITY)

③ SERVICE THAT MUST BE FRUITFUL - ①

(THE PEACEABLE FRUIT OF RIGHTNESS)

① CONFORMITY TO GOD'S WILL:

- IN PURPOSE -> IN THOUGHT -> IN ACTION -

② RESULTING IN:

RIGHT LIVING -> RIGHT STANDING
WITH GOD -

③ FRUIT -- OF THE SPIRIT --

- STOP -