

## Hebrews 12 - KEEPING OUR EYES FIXED ON JESUS

**12** Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the <sup>3</sup>author and <sup>4</sup>finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

<sup>3</sup> For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. <sup>4</sup> You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. <sup>5</sup> And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons:

“My son, do not despise the <sup>6</sup>chastening of the LORD,  
Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;

<sup>6</sup> For whom the LORD loves He chastens,  
And scourges every son whom He receives.”

<sup>7</sup> If <sup>8</sup>you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? <sup>8</sup> But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. <sup>9</sup> Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected *us*, and we paid *them* respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? <sup>10</sup> For they indeed for a few days chastened *us* as seemed *best* to them, but He for *our* profit, that *we* may be partakers of His holiness. <sup>11</sup> Now no <sup>12</sup>chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, <sup>13</sup> and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

<sup>14</sup> Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: <sup>15</sup> looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; <sup>16</sup> lest there *be* any fornicator or <sup>17</sup>profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. <sup>17</sup> For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.

<sup>18</sup> For you have not come <sup>19</sup>to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and <sup>20</sup>darkness and tempest, <sup>19</sup> and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard *it* begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. <sup>20</sup> (For they could not endure what was commanded: “And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned <sup>21</sup>or shot with an arrow.” <sup>21</sup> And so terrifying was the sight *that* Moses said, “I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.”)

<sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, <sup>23</sup> to the <sup>24</sup>general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, <sup>24</sup> to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.

<sup>25</sup> See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more *shall we not escape* if we turn away from Him who *speaks* from heaven, <sup>26</sup> whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, “Yet once more I <sup>27</sup>shake not only the earth, but also heaven.” <sup>27</sup> Now this, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain.

<sup>28</sup> Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by

which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. <sup>29</sup> For our God is a consuming fire.

## Hebrews 13 – Serve Jesus Well

<sup>13</sup> Let brotherly love continue. <sup>2</sup> Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so *doing* some have unwittingly entertained angels. <sup>3</sup> Remember the prisoners as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.

<sup>4</sup> Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

<sup>5</sup> Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” <sup>6</sup> So we may boldly say:

“The LORD is my helper;  
I will not fear.  
What can man do to me?”

<sup>7</sup> Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of *their* conduct. <sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. <sup>9</sup> Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.

<sup>10</sup> We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. <sup>11</sup> For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. <sup>12</sup> Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. <sup>13</sup> Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. <sup>14</sup> For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. <sup>15</sup> Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name. <sup>16</sup> But

do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

<sup>17</sup> Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

<sup>18</sup> Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a good conscience, in all things desiring to live honorably. <sup>19</sup> But I especially urge *you* to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.

<sup>20</sup> Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, <sup>21</sup> make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>22</sup> And I appeal to you, brethren, bear with the word of exhortation, for I have written to you in few words. <sup>23</sup> Know that *our* brother Timothy has been set free, with whom I shall see you if he comes shortly.

<sup>24</sup> Greet all those who rule over you, and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you.

<sup>25</sup> Grace be with you all. Amen.

**1. What does it mean for the believer to keep their eyes fixed on Jesus?**

**2. How should the believer view the Christian life?**

**3. See 2 Corinthians 11:13-15, who is at work to deceive the believer. Galatians 1:4-6, 1 Peter 5:8**

**4. How were you taught about the Christian life when you first came to Jesus? “Battle’s on or my best life now?”**

**5. Do you think most believers are ignorant of Satan’s schemes?**