

RUN THROUGH THE TAPE ~ Hebrews 12:3-4

→Scripture Reading Hebrews 11:1, 6, 13 and 12:1-4

INTRODUCTION

I expected times like these - but I never thought they'd be so Bad, so Long, and so FREQUENT

[1] Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. [2] Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

MEDITATE ON JESUS ~ Hebrews 12:3

[3] Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

APPLICATION

APPLICATION (2nd Application)

KEEP ON STRUGGLING ~ Hebrews 12:4

[4] In your struggle against sin, you have NOT YET resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Hebrews 10:32-36 (NIV) Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you stood your ground in a great contest in the face of suffering. [33] Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. [34] You sympathized with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions. [35] **So do not throw away your confidence**; it will be richly rewarded. [36] You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

APPLICATION

John 15:20 (NIV) Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also...

John 16:33 (NIV) "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. **In this world you WILL HAVE trouble.** But take heart! I have OVERCOME the world."

TAKE AWAY ??

This passage teaches us that we must be totally **absorbed** with Jesus. This requires turning away from those things that distract us - and then turning towards and consciously focusing and meditating on Jesus. This is why we must read and re-read the Gospels. **This is why our worship must be centered on Jesus Christ.** R K Hughes

[3] Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NIV) For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, [24] and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in REMEMBRANCE of me." [25] In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in REMEMBRANCE of me." [26] For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:27-28 (NIV) Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. [28] A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.