

FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS

Hebrews 12:1-29

Key Verse: 12:2

“... fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

1. What does “Therefore” mean? How does the author encourage “us” to run the race of faith (1)¹? What hinders us? What attitude is required? What do the words “marked out for us” suggest?
2. Read verses 2-3. How can we run the race? What is the goal? What does it mean that Jesus is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith? How does this Jesus enable us to run the race?
3. To what does “sin” refer (4; 3:12-14)? To what extent should believers resist it? How does God’s word encourage us in the midst of hardships (5-9)? What is the purpose and result of God’s discipline (10-11)? How should we receive discipline (12-13)?
4. What should we “make every effort” to do, and why is important to be holy (14)? Why is bitterness so serious and how can we avoid it (15)? Why should we not be sexually immoral or godless (16-17)?
5. How does the author emphasize the great blessings we have received by contrasting “Mount Sinai” and the heavenly Jerusalem (18-24)? What do we learn about God? What strong warning is given (25-27)? How should we respond to God (28-29)?

¹ The word “witnesses” comes from the word for “martyrs.” These are witnesses of Christ. Their examples encourage us, but they are not spectators of our race.