

TRIUMPHANT: *Running to Win the Race Set Before Us!*

Lesson One • Hebrews 12:1

Remember the Witnesses!

What Is the “GOLD” We Are Running for?

*Receiving **GREATER** glory from God in His coming kingdom!*

*His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.”
Matthew 25:21 (NAS)*

What Is the “GOAL” We Are Running for?

*Be **TRIUMPHANT** by finishing **FAITHFUL** in the race set before us!*

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfector of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1-2 (NAS)

FINISH FAITHFUL by REMEMBERING the WITNESSES!

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...” 12:1

WHO Are the Witnesses?

1. More than armchair spectators who WATCH us and cheer us with their lips. (12:1)
2. Proven winners who WITNESS to us and encourage us with their lives. (11:2, 4, 5, 39)
 - ☐ They are the people found in **Hebrews 11** who finished faithful.
 - ☐ They are the people found in **the rest of Scripture** who finished faithful.
 - ☐ They are the people found in **Christian biographies** who finished faithful.
 - ☐ They are people who **once sat in these pews** and who finished faithful.

WHY Should We Remember Them?

1. Because of God’s witness about them: “Their **FAITH** is real and the only kind I reward!” (11:2, 4-5, 16, 38-39)

2. Because of their witness about God: “He is **FAITHFUL** and the only One who can see you through to the finish!”

WHAT Should We Remember About Them?

Remember that Faith in Our Faithful God and His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ...

1. CLEANSSES from all kinds of sins.
2. CHANGES all kinds of people.
3. CONQUERS all kinds of problems.
 - He may enable us by faith to ESCAPE our problems. (11:32-35a)
 - He may enable us by faith to ENDURE our problems. (11:35b-38)
4. CONTINUES through all kinds of pressures.
5. CREATES all kinds of potential.

Are You in the Race This Morning?

Get in the Race: *A Prayer for Receiving Salvation*

“God, I know I am sinner and that my sins separate me from really knowing You and running the race of lifetime. So right now I ask you to forgive me of my sins and change my heart, not based on what I have done or will do, but based on what Jesus Christ has already done by dying on the Cross and raising from the dead,. I am turning from myself and my sin to receive Jesus as my Lord and Savior right now! Thank you, Lord Jesus, for saving me and being the Author and Finisher of my faith. In Jesus Name, Amen!”

How Will You Remember the Witnesses This Fall?

Go for the Gold: *A Plan for Remembering the Witnesses*

- **Pick a Witness** to remember, read about, and reflect on for the rest of the year. (**See Bulletin Insert**)
- **Be a Witness** to someone who is thinking about giving up on God.
- **Persevere as a Witness:** What is God asking to **be** or **do** by faith that you are neglecting or resisting? Stay in the race! Take the next step and do the next thing by faith in our faithful God through Jesus Christ!