**SERMON NOTES**

**Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus: The Superiority of Christ In All Things**

**A Sermon Series Through the Book of Hebrews**

**“Enduring the Race of Faith”**

**Hebrews 12: 2 – 3**

**Big Idea: Running the race of faith with endurance so that you *finish* your race in faith is what matters most.**

**Running the race of faith with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so that you finish your race is what matters most.**

**The word translated “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” in verse three literally means to look away from something toward something else.**

**Look to Jesus and look away from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Looking around to others, comparing your faith race with theirs, only has two outcomes: despair or pride. You will either be discouraged because others are ‘seemingly’ running their race so much better than you or you will be prideful because you are ‘seemingly’ running a better race of faith than others. Both are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to your race of faith.**

**Look to Jesus and look away from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Looking to self will cause you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as you constantly judge and hold yourself to a standard that perhaps isn’t even God’s standard for you. Or looking to yourself will cause \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as you perhaps hold yourself to a lesser standard than God would have for you.**

**Look away from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and look instead toward Jesus.**

**To look to Jesus over all of these things is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ work in us.**

**When we look to Jesus, we are looking to the one who is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of our faith.**

**Jesus is the one who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our faith and makes faith in God possible for us.**

**Jesus, being author of your faith believer, means that He is the one alone who grants and enables your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to believe God and trust His promises. That moment you first believed God to save you was not done by your power, it was began for you by Jesus, the author of your faith (Ephesians 2: 8-9; Philippians 1:6).**

**That word “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” means to bring something to completion, the “one who completes” or “the one who finishes”.**

**Jesus is the one who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and keeps your faith (Philippians 1:6).**

**Believer, you must run your race. You must endure. That is what you are called to do. But you endure, you finish only by looking to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ whose work it is to begin your faith race and who promises to finish your race of faith (Colossians 1:15; John 10: 27-30; Luke 22: 31 - 32).**

**The Bible teaches that it is God’s power that keeps us to the end but also stresses the fact that we must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and endure in our faith - this enduring evidences that we have in fact been truly saved.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ how Jesus endured from sinners such hostility against Himself.**

**Consider that Jesus felt the very real pull of temptation and yet He chose the Father’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ every time.**

**Jesus can be and should be the one we look toward because He knows what it’s like to feel temptation and suffering and still to keep going toward the father’s will in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of faith.**

**The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that was before Jesus allowed Him to endure and entrust Himself to God. The joy of being faithful to come, do, and finish His Father’s will and in doing so receive His reward: A people ransomed from every tribe tongue and nation by His work and His faithfulness giving Him the endless praise and worship that He is rightly due (Revelation 7: 9-12).**

**Just as Jesus did, run the race for the goal: the goal of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, completing, and keeping your faith, trust, and hope in God. And then receive your reward life forever with God in Heaven.**

*Blanks*: endurance; looking; others; dangerous; ourself; despair & pride; sin; God’s; author & perfector; begins; faith; perfector; sustains; Jesus; persevere; consider; will; race; joy; finishing;

*“Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.” 1 Timothy 4: 13*

**Congregational Scripture Reading: James 5: 7- 11**

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.