

## KEEP GOING...WITH YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Hebrews 12:1-4 p. 975

- I. WE CAN PERSEVERE SPIRITUALLY NO MATTER WHERE WE ARE IN LIFE NOW (HEBREWS 12:1).
  - A. Those who persevered in faith in the past surround us as proof that God is faithful (1a, Hebrews 11).
    - Not that they are looking at us, but we must look at them.
  - B. To keep going, we must discard all distractions (1b).
    - Nonessential/distracting passions, not inherently sinful.
  - C. To keep going, we must discard sin habits that trip us (1c).
    - Habits/addictions inherently sinful OR sinful in excess.
  - D. Run with perseverance toward spiritual maturity, accepting where you are in life right now (1d).
- II. WE WILL KEEP GOING SPIRITUALLY IF WE FOCUS ON JESUS WHO PERSEVERED FOR US (HEBREWS 12:2-4).
  - A. We will endure if we rely on the power of Jesus who authored our faith and completed God's plan of salvation (2).
    1. He endured the shameful cross that paid for our sin (2a).
    2. He completed God's plan for our salvation so that we could live joyfully under His grace (2b).

- B. Focusing on how Jesus responded to opposition will give us endurance and encouragement (3-4).
  - We can be encouraged when struggling with sin and sinners – though most of us don't face martyrdom.