



Sunday 18 August 2013

SCRIPTURES

- Hebrews 12:1-3
- James 1:2-4



HEBREWS 12:1-3

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, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter 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.

³ For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

JAMES 1:2-4

Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.
⁴ And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

FIXING YOUR EYES ON HIM
WHAT IS SET BEFORE YOU?

SO FAR...

- Circumstances, situations, trials demand our attention
- Deliberately look away to Jesus
 - requires action, thought, words
 - use promises He's made

REMEMBER...

- Believers are on a 'journey'
 - His will for you is GOOD! LIFE (and abundantly!)
 - His will includes you becoming an effective instrument through whom His will can be done on earth
 - He is making you a person of faith

CONSIDER JESUS

- Discouragement, weariness is NEVER from the Lord!
 - Something other than God has your attention...
- Told to consider Him so that we don't grow weary, lose heart
- Two aspects to consider

CONSIDER JESUS

I. Who He is to us

- What He's done, promised
- Deliberately consider, declare (confess) His benefits to us, His faithfulness

CONSIDER JESUS

2. The Joy Set before Him

- What joy?
 - Many being redeemed, delivered, as a result of the cross
 - His Father's will being done!

CONSIDER JESUS

- What is set before us?
 - the good things God has promised us in Jesus
 - the purpose of His will being done, Him being pleased
 - keeps us on track
 - keeps us in the way that can receive

