

Consider Jesus: Resources for the Race
Hebrews 12:1-29 – Part 1

We Must Always Consider the Supremacy of Jesus for All of Life – Heb 12:2,3; Col 3:4

- In Him we lay hold of every resource for living as God intended – II Pet 1:3,4

Life on Earth Can Be Like an Agonizing, Cross-Country Race – Heb 12:1-3

- Each of us must run the race set before us, not the one we choose – Heb 12:1
- We will have need of endurance – Heb 12:1-3 (3 times!) (“stand” + “under”)
- We will need to lay aside...
 - ...entanglements: self-absorption – Heb 12:1
 - ...encumbrances: errors about life – Heb 12:1

Our Primary Resource for Running Well: The Living Illustration of Jesus Christ – Heb 12:2-3

- The first one to enter the race and finish it perfectly – Heb 12:2
 - ...by fixing His focus always on His Father – Jo 5:19; 6:38; 8:29; 14:10
 - ...by letting every life event press Him into His Father – Jo 12:27-28; Matt 26:37-39
- His endurance came from an “inner-stantial”, not a “circum-stantial” perspective – Heb 12:2
 - ...“for the joy set before Him”:
 - = the joy of His Father’s “well done” – Matt 25:21; I Pet 1:6-8
 - = the joy of blessing others – Phil 2:17; Col 1:24; III Jo 4
- The joy of the Lord is the witness upon the life poured out to God’s glory and for the sake of others – Neh 8:10

The Living Illustration of Jesus Is Not Just the Model or the Motive... It Is the Means for Running Well in the Race Set Before Us – Col 1:27

- We remember Jesus in order to rely upon Jesus
 - ...we look to “...not I, but Christ” – Ga 2:20
 - ...we trust Him to be His faithful, enduring Self in and through us
- As strong ones in the strength of Christ, we begin to “run our course with joy” – Heb 12:2; Ps 19:5