

**FULFILLED
IN CHRIST**

H THE BOOK OF
HEBREWS

Hebrews 11:39 - 12:1-3
“Looking to Jesus”

Life Is A Race



Life Is A Race



Life Is A Race



- The Race We Run
- How to Run the Race
- Finishing the Race

Hebrews 11:39 – 12:2

And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

The Race We Run

Abel

Enoch

Noah

Abraham

Sarah

Isaac

Jacob

Joseph

Moses

Rahab

Joshua

Gideon

Sampson

David

Samuel

The Race We Run

Abel

Enoch

Noah

Abraham

Sarah

Isaac

Jacob

Joseph

Moses

Rahab

Joshua

Gideon

Sampson

David

Samuel

Spectators

The Race We Run

Gladiators

Sabastios (Aphrodisias)

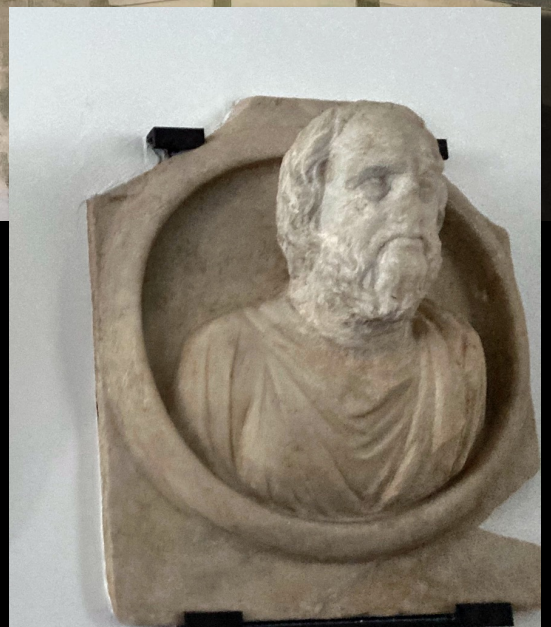
This street leads from a huge gateway to a temple of the Imperial cult. The top row are for Greek gods and Emperors; the second for military leaders



Sabastios (Aphrodisias)



Sabastios (Aphrodisias)



The Race We Run

Gladiators

Fear; Pressure; Weary

³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, ***so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.***

The Race We Run

Spectators

I'm Watching

Gladiators

Others are Jeering

Ambassadors

Others are Cheering

Aphrodisias

300 Yards Long
30,000 Seats



How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

“the race that is set before us”

Run OUR Race

Matthew 4:19

And he said to them, “**Follow me**, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

Your “race” is simply the faith-path to which Jesus has called you.

You aren't called or equipped to run anybody else's race

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

“If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as a Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, 'Here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.'”

— Martin Luther King Jr.

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

*since we are surrounded by
so great a cloud of witnesses,*

The Flawed Faithful

Look at them...side by side

Past, Present and Future



How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance



*let us also lay aside every
WEIGHT, and **SIN** which
clings so closely,*

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance



*let us also lay aside every
WEIGHT, and **SIN** which
clings so closely,*

Weight:

*What
hinders me
or slows
me down?*

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance



*let us also lay aside every **WEIGHT**, and **SIN** which clings so closely,*

Weight:

What hinders me or slows me down?

Sin:

Running my own path in my own way

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance



The winged goddess NIKE in Ephesus :
the goddess of victory, 2nd century AD.

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

“Looking to Jesus

the founder and
perfecter of our faith,

who for the joy that
was set before him

endured the cross,
despising the shame,

and is seated at the right
hand of the throne of God.”

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

“Looking to Jesus

the founder and
perfecter of our faith,

who for the joy that
was set before him

endured the cross,
despising the shame,

and is seated at the right
hand of the throne of God.”

What are you
fixated on?

“Consider him
who endured...”

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

“Looking to Jesus

the founder and
perfecter of our faith,

who for the joy that
was set before him

endured the cross,
despising the shame,

and is seated at the right
hand of the throne of God.”

What are you
fixated on?

“Consider him
who endured...”

*Where we fix our
eyes will greatly
determine the way
we live our lives.*

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

“Looking to Jesus

the founder and
perfecter of our faith,

who for the joy that
was set before him

endured the cross,
despising the shame,

and is seated at the right
hand of the throne of God.”

What are you
fixated on?

“Consider him
who endured...”

*Where we fix our
eyes will greatly
determine the way
we live our lives.*

*But Jesus is
INFINITELY more
than our example*

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

“Looking to Jesus

***the founder and
perfector of our faith,***

who for the joy that
was set before him

endured the cross,
despising the shame,

and is seated at the right
hand of the throne of God.”

Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this,
that he who **began** a
good work in you will
bring it to completion
at the day of Jesus
Christ.

Hebrews 10:14

For by a single offering
he has ***perfected*** for all
time those who are
being sanctified.

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

“Looking to Jesus

the founder and
perfecter of our faith,

***who for the joy that
was set before him***

endured the cross,
despising the shame,

and is seated at the right
hand of the throne of God.”

You were the only
thing Jesus didn't
have in Heaven.

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

“Looking to Jesus
the founder and
perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy that
was set before him

***endured the cross,
despising the shame,***

and is seated at the right
hand of the throne of God.”

This is how much he
loves you, values you,
honors you...not
reluctantly but with
outstretched arms.

Philippians 2:8
And being found in
human form, he
humbled himself by
becoming obedient to
the point of death,
even death on a cross.

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

“Looking to Jesus
the founder and
perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy that
was set before him
endured the cross,
despising the shame,

***and is seated at the right
hand of the throne of God.”***

Victorious & Finished:
Active & Powerful

Acts 7:56
And (Stephen, while being
martyred) said, “Behold, I
see the heavens opened,
and the Son of Man
standing at the right hand
of God.”

How to Run the Race

Run MY Race

Run OUR Race

Run Free

Run with Vision

Run with Endurance

“let us run with endurance”

steadfastness, constancy, endurance, patience

12:1 - “Run with endurance”

12:2 - “(Jesus) endured the cross”

12:3 - “(Jesus) who has endured”

2 Corinthians 4:17

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,¹⁸ as we **look** not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Finishing the Race

³ ***Consider him*** who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, ***so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.***

Finishing the Race

³ ***Consider him*** who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, ***so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.***

Matthew 11:28-30

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Finishing the Race

³ **Consider him** who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, **so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.**

Matthew 11:28-30

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Jude 1:24

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Finishing the Race

2 Kings 6:15

When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?” ¹⁶ He said, “Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

Finishing the Race

Everyone is running a Race:

We are invited
into Christ's
Race ("Agon")

One Step
at a Time

It's All
About Jesus

The Race Has
Been Won