

# *“For The Joy Set Before Him”*

Hebrews 12:1-2

April 28, 2019

**VIDEO:** *Welcome To Our Church* 1:50

- A very safe place.... A potentially dangerous message...
  - We really believe... *He lived, He died, He is risen!*
- Today we unite **Hebrews 12:1-2** w/ last Friday & Sunday

**CONTEXT:** Christ's passion & our Hebrew's passage unite!

*I believe this short passage might be the single most beautiful, overarching portion of Scripture that any lost soul can hear as an introduction to the full Gospel of Jesus Christ... - JDP*

**PREVIEW:**

- Our supreme **WARNING** & **WORSHIP** are in Christ
- Our supreme **CALL** & **COMMISSIONING** are in Christ
- Our supreme **VALUE** & **VICTORY** are in Jesus Christ

**BIG IDEA:** We're **Connecting Christ's Passion**  
with **Christian Purpose, Power, & Promise!**  
(per Hebrews 12:1-2)

**T/S:** Let's jump right in....

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside EVERY encumbrance & sin that so easily entangles; and let us RUN with endurance THE race set before us, FIXING OUR EYES on JESUS, the Founder and Finisher of faith, who, despising the shame, sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”*

**T/S:** Watch how we pull together the last 5 weeks & set the stage for next Sunday’s exclamation mark...

## I. Our Supreme **WARNING**

*Therefore, since...*

- *“Therefore”* connects to the **warning** of ch.10...
- *“since”* connects to the **inspiration** of ch.11...
- **The supreme warning hinges on you & Jesus!**
- May we hear, heed, obey & abide in Jesus!
- **Are you defined by Christ per ch.10 or ch.11?**
- It comes down to your relationship:
  - **Miraculous** OR Mechanical
  - **Passionate** OR Practical
  - **EVERYday** OR Sundays/Church-days

**VIDEO:** *Jesus Rant* 3:25

## II. Our Supreme **WORSHIP**

*“we are surrounded by so great  
a cloud of witnesses”*

**Great witnesses are living & loving as great worshippers!**  
- JDP

**Your relationship to sin = your relationship to Savior!**

➤ **Superficial relationships to sin reveal  
superficial relationships to THE Savior!** - JDP

*If you hate your sin... it's only because you have  
changed and now love the Savior.* - JDP

***If your relationship with sin has not changed, your  
relationship to THE Savior has not changed!*** - JDP

**Great witnesses grieve wickedness (especially their own)  
and they galvanize their worship in Christ's grace **AND**  
Christ-like, faithful-obedience, all coupled with an  
authentic, awe-inspiring, working-gratitude.** - JDP

**VIDEO:** *How Wicked Is Our Sin* (Rom. 3:23 Paul Washer) 4:15

### III. Our Supreme **CALL**

*“let us also lay aside EVERY encumbrance and sin that so easily entangles”*

- “us” = “BE the we” of great worshippers (aka Church)
- “lay aside” = **Voluntary submission/surrendering**
- “EVERY” = all... every single one... total/complete...
- “encumbrance” = **any & all “good” outside of God!**
- “and sin” = obvious & not so obvious command...
- “that so easily entangles” = **trips you up/stumbles**

**VIDEO:** *Hurt* (by 9” Nails but sung by Johnny Cash) 3:50

*Our calling is to **CHOOSE Christ & Christ-likeness...**  
***no matter what!*** - JDP*

### IV. Our Supreme **COMMISSIONING**

*“and let us RUN with endurance THE RACE set before us; FIXING our eyes on Jesus, the founder and finisher of faith”*

- “let us run” = **Christians assume responsibility!**
- “run” = **worship + walk + work = BE a WITNESS!**
- “with endurance” = power-purpose-perseverance
- “THE race set before us” = the LORD’s 5 Great C’s  
***“Follow ME!”***

- *“fixing our eyes on Jesus”*
  - *“fixing”* is essential for following!
  - *“What you behold is who you become.”* – Platt
  - *“If you behold encumbrances, you’ll become an encumbrance.”* – JDP
  - Fix your eyes on Jesus’ **Word, Will, & Ways!**
    - *Creator* – Genesis 1 & John 1
    - *Cure* – Genesis 3 & John 3
    - *Crucified & Resurrected*
    - *Commander who ascended*
    - *Coming-back to close things down...*

**VIDEO:** *Passion of Christ* (with “You Paid It All”) 4:45

- If you fix your eyes on the world & you will become worldly...If you fix your eyes on Christ & you will become Christ-like.
- *“the founder & finisher of faith”*
  - He is the *Alpha & the Omega...* of ALL creation.
  - The crucifixion & resurrection of Christ bring everything into focus!
  - The cross shows us the epitome of God’s love and hate, while the empty tomb reveals His unique power, purpose, promise, & plan! – JDP

T/S: Only He can create, cleanse, & complete us Christian

## V. Our Supreme **VALUE**

*“who for the joy set before Him, endured the cross”*

- Today’s sermon title: *“For The Joy Set Before Him”*
- See the ENCOURAGEMENT of God’s love in His joy!
- **Look at the cross thru this personal-prism:**
  - Jesus endured the cross to save you Christian!
  - Jesus had a *get-to* attitude (for you) **on the cross!**
  - Jesus hung w/ joy-focused, faithful-obedience!
- **Christians are PRICELESS...** per the price paid! - JDP

**VIDEO:** *I’m Clean* (by Natalie Grant) 4:35

## VI. Our Supreme **VICTORY**

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

- *Despising the shame* is beyond our comprehension
- This is Almighty God we are talking about...

## I have good news & bad news:

- Good news: **We can have VICTORY in JESUS**
- Bad news: *All other lies lead to **death & damnation***

**VIDEO:** *The Gospel* (by Eric Ludy) 11:25

- Again... look at the LOVE... **LOOK...** at His LOVE!
- *Christ took our shame & gave us His shine!* - JDP

Do you see friend... *Christ doesn't just give the Christian their value, He gives us our*  
**VISION & VICTORY!**

**Close:** Christ's passion & our Hebrew's passage show:

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- Our supreme **VALUE** & **VICTORY** are in Jesus Christ

**VIDEO:** *That's My King!* 3:35

**Let's PRAY!**

**VIDEO:** *O Come To The Alter*