

Hebrews 10:32-33 (NLT)

Think back on those early days when you first learned about Christ. Remember how you remained faithful even though it meant terrible suffering. [33] Sometimes you were exposed to public ridicule and were beaten, and sometimes you helped others who were suffering the same things.

Hebrews 10:34 (NLT)

You suffered along with those who were thrown into jail, and when all you owned was taken from you, you accepted it with joy. You knew there were better things waiting for you that will last forever.

Hebrews 10:35-36 (NLT)

So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! [36] Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that He has promised.

Consider JESUS

Hebrews 12:3-4

Message of HEBREWS...

- Jesus is **SUPERIOR**
- do not **GO BACK**
- you Must **PERSEVERE**

Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us **throw off everything that hinders** and **the sin that so easily entangles**, and **let us run with perseverance** the race marked out for us.

Hebrews 12.2 (NIV)

Let us **FIX our EYES on Jesus**, the **author and perfecter of our faith**, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 10:32-34 (NIV)

Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when **you stood your ground** in a great contest in the face of suffering. [33]

Sometimes you were **publicly exposed to insult and persecution**; at other times you **stood side by side with those who were so treated**. [34] You sympathized with those in prison and **joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property**, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions.

Hebrews 10:35-36 (NIV)

So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. [36] **You need to persevere** so **that when you have done the will of God,** you will **receive** what **He** has promised.

Two sins are in view here:
the **daily sins**, things in life that **TRIP** us,
ENTANGLE us, and **bring us down**;
and the **CROWNING sin** of **throwing in**
the towel, of **giving up** the race altogether.

John 15:20 (NIV)

Remember the words I spoke to you:

No servant is **GREATER**

than his **MASTER**.

If they persecuted **ME**,

they **will persecute you** also...

Salvation by Grace is FREE -
we cannot earn it - we don't deserve it -
it is **God's Free Gift** to us

Discipleship is COSTLY -
we are called to **DAILY Obedience -**
to **Daily SURRENDER**

John 6:67 (NIV)

...**Lord**, to whom would we go?
You have the **WORDS** that give
eternal life.

So why should we follow Jesus?

- >He is the **ONLY ANSWER** that makes any sense in a world **gone totally crazy**.
- >He is the **ONLY** one who **brings PEACE** out of the **chaos and the turmoil** in our Lives.
- >He is the **ONLY** one who can **help us FACE** the **HARD THINGS** we will ALL face.

John 15:20 (NIV)

...No servant is **greater** than his **MASTER**.

If they persecuted ME,
they **WILL** persecute you also...

John 16:33 (NIV)

I have told you these things, so that

IN ME

you may have peace.

In this world **you WILL HAVE** trouble.

But take heart!

I have **OVERCOME** the world.

This passage teaches us that we must be
totally **ABSORBED** with Jesus.

This requires turning **AWAY** from those
things that **distract us** -

and then turning **TOWARDS** and
consciously focusing and
meditating on Jesus.

[3] **CONSIDER HIM** who endured
such opposition from sinful men,

SO THAT

you will not grow **WEARY**
and **lose heart.**

This is the **challenge** to take our
suffering - our **hardship** and
TURN it INTO
a Worship Experience

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NLT)

That is why **we NEVER give up**. Though our **bodies are dying**, our **spirits are being renewed** every day.

[17] For **our present troubles are**
SMALL and **won't last very long.**

Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly
outweighs them and will last forever!

[18] So **we don't LOOK** at the **TROUBLES** we can see now; rather, **we FIX** our **GAZE** on things that **cannot be seen**. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but **the things we cannot see will last forever**.

Don't let **Fatigue, Pain, or Criticism**
force you to look **AWAY** from **Jesus**.

Renew your commitment to serving Christ.

Don't forsake your eternal reward because
of the **intensity of today's pain**.

Your very weakness allows the
resurrection power of Christ to
strengthen you moment by moment. LABC

[1] Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

[2] Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

[3] **Consider Him** who endured such opposition from sinful men, **so that** you will **not grow weary** and **lose heart**.