

HEBREWS 12

MARCH 1, 2018

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12:1-3

In what sense are the faithful of chapter 11 witnesses? What are they witnessing?

What actions should this motivate on our part? What type of encumbrances or entanglements might get in the way of our endurance?

What makes Jesus the ultimate example of faith? Practically, what does it mean to fix our eyes on Him? How will this empower us to endure?

12:4-11

How does their own race compare with Jesus'? How should they view the hardships they are facing? What does it indicate about their relationship with God?

In what sense can our trials be considered discipline from God? (*cf. Jas 1:2-4; Rom 5:3-5*)

What is the ultimate goal of this discipline? (*vv. 10-11*)

12:12-17

With this perspective of trials, how should they deal with weariness and discouragement?

What three things must they give attention to in order to finish their race well? (What two things must they pursue? What one thing must they avoid? – *vv. 14-15*)

Who is presented here as an example of one who failed to endure? How did he fail to endure? What was the ultimate consequence? (*cf. Gen 26:29-34; 27:30-38*)

12:18-24

What two destinations are contrasted here? What are some basic differences between Israel's arrival at Sinai and their arrival at Zion / Jerusalem?

How is Israel's encounter with God at Mt. Sinai described here? What are some of the defining characteristics of the covenant established here?

How is our encounter with God at Mt. Zion described differently? What are some of the defining characteristics of the New Covenant established here?

What does it mean that we are the "church of the firstborn ones"? (*cf. 12:16-17*) What does it mean to be "enrolled in heaven"?

What does it mean that Jesus' blood "speaks better than the blood of Abel"? (*cf. 11:4*)

12:25-29

How did the Israelites respond to God's voice at Sinai? (*12:19; Ex 32:1-6*) What was the consequence? (*Heb 3:16-19; cf. Ex 32:7-14*)

What will be the consequence if we respond in the same way to the "speaking" of Jesus' blood from God's heavenly throne? (*cf. 10:29*)

What is the significance of the phrase "yet once more" from Haggai's prophecy of judgment? What was this shaking preparing the way for? (*Hag 2:6-9*)

How should we respond to this unshakable kingdom God has prepared?