

This Will Make You Feel Better

Annual Consecration

Week 5

“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily best us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.”

Hebrews 12:1-3

There was an interesting story I was reading that took place in the mid-90's at the Seattle Special Olympics. Nine contestants, all physically or mentally disabled, assembled at the starting line for the 100-yard dash. At the gun, they all started out not exactly in a dash, but with the determination to run the race to the finish and win. All that is except one boy who stumbled on the asphalt, tumbled over a couple of times, and began to cry. The other eight, after hearing the boy cry, slowed down and paused. Then they all turned around and went back—every one of them. There was one girl with Down Syndrome who bent down and kissed him and told him: “This will make it better”. Then all nine linked arms and walked together to the finish line. Everyone in the stadium stood and began to cheer, and the cheering went on for 10 minutes.

I thought that was a wonderful example of Jesus and what He did at the cross. God stopped, picked us up, and said, “This will make you feel better.” Let's link arms and walk to the finish line together.

This is a very touchy subject when I think about it. In prayer, we are in a war that demands us to desire to go forward. We are not content with things the way they are. We are boldly approaching the Throne of Grace. We must stand firm when opposed by the enemy. We are marching onward and upward when it would be easier to retreat. The times of testing reveal where our faith rests and what we really believe about God. I was taught, in my military training, not to run and leave a wounded comrade on the battlefield to die. You have got to at least try and get him out of there. There have been a lot of soldiers who have been honored for their heroic actions, risking their own life to rescue a fellow wounded soldier. Oftentimes in the church, we leave our wounded to die.

We have five days left. Let's link arms and run the race with patience that is set before us. Remember, it is not how you start that counts; it is how you finish. This week, we are going to sacrifice all meat as we run to the finish. If you know someone who started out with us, but stumbled and fell, link arms with them and let's finish this thing together.

Meet me in prayer armed for battle on both Monday night at 7 pm and Friday night at 7:30 pm.