

Running THE Race Part 2 <http://biblos.com/>

Know THE Course!

1 Corinthians 5: ¹¹But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one. ¹²For what have I to do with judging **outsiders**? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? ¹³God judges those **outside**. "Purge the evil person from among you."

Colossian 4: ⁵ Walk in wisdom toward **outsiders**, making the best use of the time. ⁶Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Outsiders-exo-root word -ek-from -- without

Ephesians 2: ¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you **once walked**, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the **sons of disobedience**—³among whom we all once lived in **the passions of our flesh**, carrying out the **desires** of the **body** and the **mind**, and were by nature **children of wrath**, like the rest of mankind.

Who is God addressing?

Ephesians 1: ¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, **To the saints** who are in Ephesus, **and are faithful in Christ Jesus:**

1 Corinthians 10: ⁶Now these things took place as examples **for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.** ⁷ **Do not be idolaters as some of them were;** as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." ⁸ **We must not** indulge in **sexual immorality as some of them did,** and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.

⁹We must not put Christ to the test, **as some of them did** and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, **as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.** ¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down **FOR OUR instruction**, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹²**Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands** take heed lest he fall.

2 Peter 1: ¹Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, **To those** who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

Watch the "they's" and the "them's", really important for us to understand who these are referring to:

2 Peter 2: ¹But **false prophets** also arose **among the people, just as there will be false teachers AMONG YOU**, who will **secretly bring in** destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. ²And **many** will follow **their** sensuality, **and because of them** the way of truth will be blasphemed. ³And in **their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their** condemnation from long ago is not idle, and **their** destruction is not asleep.

¹² **But these**, like irrational animals, creatures of instinct, born to be caught and destroyed, blaspheming about matters of which **they** are ignorant, will also be destroyed in their destruction, ¹³suffering wrong as the wage for **their** wrongdoing. **They** count it pleasure to revel in the daytime. **They** are blots and blemishes, reveling in **their** deceptions, **while they feast with you.** ¹⁴**They** have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. **They** entice unsteady souls. **They** have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children! ¹⁵**Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They** have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing, ¹⁶but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

¹⁷ **These** are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm. **For them the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved.** ¹⁸For, speaking loud boasts of folly, **they** entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error. ¹⁹**They** promise them freedom, but **they themselves** are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved. ²⁰For if, **AFTER THEY HAVE ESCAPED the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome,** the last state has become worse for **them** than the first. ²¹For it would have been better for **them** **never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.** ²²What the true proverb says has happened to **them**: "The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire."

Hebrews 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, ²looking 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.

Hebrews 11: ¹**Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.**

³**By faith** we understand that the universe was created by the word of God,.....

⁴**By faith** Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain,.....

⁵**By faith** Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death,.....

⁷**By faith** Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen,....

⁸**By faith** Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance.....

⁹**By faith** he went to live in the land of promise,.....

¹¹**By faith** Sarah herself received power to conceive,.....

- ¹⁷**By faith** Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac,.....
- ²⁰**By faith** Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau.
- ²¹**By faith** Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph,.....
- ²²**By faith** Joseph, at the end of his life,.....
- ²³**By faith** Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents,.....
- ²⁴**By faith Moses**, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,
- ²⁷**By faith** he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king,.....
- ²⁸**By faith** he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood,.....
- ²⁹**By faith** the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land,.....
- ³⁰**By faith** the walls of Jericho fell down.....
- ³¹**By faith** Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

James 2: ²⁴You see that a person is justified by works and **NOT** by faith alone.

Hebrews 11: ¹³These **ALL died in faith**, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

³²And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received back their dead **by resurrection**. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that **they might rise again to a better life**. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated—

³⁸of whom the world was not worthy— wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. ³⁹And all these, **though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised**, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect- *teleiōthōsin-to bring to an end, to complete, perfect*

Hebrews 12: ¹**Therefore**, **SINCE** we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses (witnesses of what-FAITH!!!), **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, **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, *clings so closely-euperistatos-standing around, i.e. (a competitor) thwarting (a racer) in every direction. set-prokeimai-to set forth-to lie before the view*

²**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.

So God's instruction for the race are defined here as:

- ❖ **Take note of the "faith" witnesses in the scriptures that we are surrounded by**
- ❖ **Lay aside every weight**
- ❖ **Lay aside sin**
- ❖ **Run with endurance**
- ❖ **Run the race**
- ❖ **Know the course set before us**
- ❖ **Look to Jesus-where He is in His current ministry as Our High Priest**