

Endurance

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 has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.—Hebrews 12:2

When we think of endurance we usually think of athletic events, basketball, football, cycling, track and many others. Even a fast walk on a treadmill requires endurance. Whether it is a physical fitness activity like jogging, or the mental endurance of working through a major project, we all understand what it means to endure. The dictionary defines it as despite fatigue, stress, or adverse conditions one continues to complete the task.

We all get weary at some point but we persevere to the end if our goal is important to us. Paul admonished the Jewish believers and he urges us through the scripture to persevere. We may feel like giving up but we need to keep moving through the difficult situations to bring glory to Christ.

We find great encouragement in the example of the Son of God. As we look to Christ's example, anything we must endure pales in comparison to His suffering. Our LORD suffered far more than any person could endure. He was the perfect example for His followers. He did it willingly out of love. He did not complain or have a bitter spirit as He suffered extreme rejection and shame. He was physically and emotionally persecuted.

He endured all this for the joy set before Him. The joy of providing salvation for all who would accept His sacrifice.