

## **LOOKING UNTO JESUS** **(Hebrews 12:1-3)**

LOOKING UNTO JESUS IN THE SCRIPTURES, to learn there what He is, what He has done, what He gives, what He desires; to find in His character our pattern, in His teachings our instruction, in His precepts our law, in His promises our support, in His person and in His work a full satisfaction provided for every need of our souls.

LOOKING UNTO JESUS CRUCIFIED, to find in His shed blood our ransom, our pardon, our peace.

LOOKING UNTO JESUS RISEN, to find in Him the righteousness which alone makes us righteous, and permits us, all unworthy as we are, to draw near with boldness, in His name, to Him who is His Father and our Father, His God and our God.

LOOKING UNTO JESUS GLORIFIED, to find in Him our Heavenly Advocate completing by His intercession the work inspired by His lovingkindness for our salvation (1John 2:1); Who even now is appearing for us before the face of God (Heb. 9:24),

### **A. The EXAMPLES You Need to OBSERVE. (12:1a) ... *“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses ...”***

#### **1. “Therefore” is a \_\_\_\_\_ word that reminds these readers of the preceding verses, as well as sets the stage for what is about to be said.**

- What is the theme of Hebrews?
- Who is the audience being addressed?
- Why are they being instructed, encouraged, and warned in this epistle?
- When was this book written?

#### **2. The examples they were to observe... *“we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses ...”***

- Who are these witnesses?
- What does God highlight in the life of these examples for these believers to observe?
- How does this apply to you?

### **B. The ENCUMBRANCES You Need to LAY ASIDE. (12:1b) ... *“let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us ...”***

#### **1. What are the 2 encumbrances mentioned?**

#### **2. Why would you want to lay aside encumbrances in running a race?**

**C. The EXHORTATIONS You Need to HEED. (12:1c-2a) ... “let us lay aside ...let us run ...the race”**

**1. “let us lay aside” (aorist, middle, participle of apotithemi) –**

**2. “let us run” (present, active, subjunctive of trechō) –**

- What were they to run?
- How is this race described?
- What was needed to run the race and finish the course?
- How does this apply to you?

**3. “looking unto Jesus” (present, active, participle of aphorao)**

- The issue of focus is underscored by the word \_\_\_\_\_.
- The object of focus is to be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Why should these believers focus on Jesus?
  - Who are you focusing on?

LOOKING UNTO JESUS AND AT NOTHING ELSE, as our text expresses it in one untranslatable word (aphoroontes), which at the same time directs us to fix our gaze upon Him, and to turn it away from everything else.

**D. The ENCOURAGEMENTS You Need to CONSIDER. (12:2c-3)**

**#1: The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus, which involved the shame of the \_\_\_\_\_.**

- What motivated our Lord to do this?
- What also did Jesus “endure”?

**#2: The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus, which involved the reality that He sat at the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ of the throne of God.**

- What the significance of this?
- Why is this reminder and encouragement needed?
- How does all of this apply to you?