

Title: Things to Consider While Running Your Marathon

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1-4

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Hebrews 12:1-4 / King James Version (KJV)

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 beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

²*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.*

³*For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.*

⁴*Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.*

Three things to consider when running our race for life:

1. Consider the Saints:
 - a. While we are going through our life we need to remember how the saints before us lived their lives. Elijah, Paul, Daniel, Esther, etc. – they all had their troubles and their victories. They did not give up during life. They “kept the faith”. At the end of their race they all got their reward (II Timothy 4:8). We are also promised that same reward. The saints are a reliable example of Gods providence, security, sovereignty, and the list goes on and on. God is the sponsor while we are running our race.
2. Consider Yourself:
 - a. When running, you need to prepare for a race. Your body needs to be ready to take on the elements of a run. You can’t eat junk for weeks to prepare for any kind of sport. We have to run with patience. You can’t expect to finish all at once (I Corinthians 15:58). To complete a race, we need endurance. It has to be prepared for what is coming. We have to be able to complete our race. We should be focused on the finish line. In life we need to be focused on our spiritual finish line. When our focus gets off, things start to go wrong.
3. Consider the Savior:
 - a. He is our starting and finish lines. He’s our water break. He’s our coach, physician, motivator, counselor and everything else we need along the way. He finished his race now he is here to help us finish ours.