Bible Course
Acts to Revelation
Lesson 54

Name:	

## Read Hebrews 12

Paul looks back at all these heroes of faith and all that they endured and admonishes his readers to endure the chastening of the Lord because the fruit is so beautiful.

1.	Paul	calls	these	people	a	F - 1			
			C	of witnesses.	Like	Endurance 			
	they, we	are to lay	aside every v	weight (as a	runner				
	put off a	ll the extr	a clothes ar						
	spiritually	) which so	easily beso						
			tł	ne race - loo	king to				
	Jesus	(goal,	finish	line),	the	The Christian life is not a short			
			aı	nd finisher o	f faith.	sprint for a temporary medal.			
2.	Why did	Jesus run	this race as	Paul compares the Christian life to the Grecian runs which					
	(Micah	2:13) for	His Chu	ırch? Fo	r the	were days long. It is a lifelong marathon where runners, by			
	,	•	set befo		black	God's grace, deliberately and actively use the means, read			
	Bride), h	e endured	the		,	scripture, study, keep the			
	despised t	he		, and no	w is at	Sabbath, assist others, fellowshipendure.			
	the right	hand of t	he		of				
	God.								
3.	Why wo	uld Christ	endure suc	ch a		of sinners			
	(enemies)	against H	imself? It i	s incompreh	ensible.	If Christ endured the cross			
	and the	fierce	wrath of	God agai	nst sin,	then we should not			
			+1	ne chastenin	r of the I	ord nor faint when we are			

rebuked of Him, because whomever the	Lord
(lovingly but firmly	
corrects) just like a father chastens his sons. Those	
who do not receive chastening, don't have a father,	Mou agair
these boys are called	stern Sinai
(illegitimate child). Paul says that an earthly father	becar It ha
corrects and the children then give	has furni
to their dad. Should we	nor s Here
not much more be in	of L good
to God the Father, and live. It is never	oppo whic
to be chastened, but	wher faire
rather it is, yet afterward it	
yieldeth the peaceable fruits of	
unto them that are exercised	
thereby. (Note that last phrase: If we are not	
exercised (by the Holy Spirit), it will yield no	
peaceable fruit.)	In co
In the last part of chapter 12 (v. 12-29) Paul warns	mour in Je
all about rejecting God's grace. We are to make	him comf
(Biblical) paths for	the g
our feet, and not stray on crooked paths. Christians	them of th
are called to follow	the I Triui
with all men and	– Ada
These two things are noted by Paul that in that	
without which no man will	
the Lord (in	
heaven). Then Paul gives several warnings:	
a springing in the heart	
b. Being like a profane	
person who sold his	
What did he seek (even with tears), but never foun	d?

4.

## Mt. Sinai vs. Mt. Zion

also

loves,

nt Sinai stood out in a terrible sublimity ast the sky. It was not only sublime, but and tempest beaten. God came upon with his Law and the dread mountain me a type of what the law would be to us. s given us a grand idea of holiness, but it not offered us a pathway thereto, nor shed a weary heart with a resting place, upplied the hungry with spiritual food. is a great contrast b etween the economy aw and the economy of Grace. Every thing is enhanced in value by its site. Light is all the brighter to eyes h have wept in darkness. Food is sweeter you have known hunger. And Zion is because of Sinai.



In contrast, beautiful for situation and the joy of the whole earth is Mt. Zion. There at the mountain of God, His Church feasts, rejoicing in Jesus Christ. There His children may find him ruling, guiding, sanctifying, and comforting them. There he speaks to them by the gospel ministry. There they speak to him by prayer, and he hears them. There he trains them up for heaven, and gives them the earnest of their inheritance. This Mt. Zion is a type of the Heavenly Jerusalem which is the Church Triumphant.

- Adapted from Matthew Henry and Charles Spurgeon.



5.	Next, Paul compares Mt. Sinai where the law was given and Mt. Zion. Paul starts					
	with Mt. Sinai in v. 18. When the Israelites waited here for Moses to bring the					
	law, they saw a mountain that burned with,					
	blackness and darkness and					
6.	When the sounded, they were to come up to the					
	mountain (Exodus 19: 12-13), but so terrible was the sight, that the people asked					
	that these words be not spoken to them any more. Even Moses said, "I					
	exceedingly and					
7.	A beast that touched the mountain had to be thrust through with a					
8.	But they are not come to hear the law at Mt. Sinai, but rather they are come to Mt.					
	Zion. Paul then lists other metaphors and phrases of what it is like to come to					
	Christ in the gospel. List them "ye are come					
	a. Unto Mount Zion					
	b					
	C					
	d					
	e					
	f The fifth warning: LISTEN! Do					
	g not ignore God's warnings.  There is no escape for those who					
	do not repent and helieve					
	h					
	i					
9.	If we are come to such a place as Mt. Zion, let us not do like the Israelites who					
<i>,</i>	would not hear it any more. If they did not escape at Mt. Sinai, much more shall					
	we not escape if we turn from Him that speaketh from					
	His voice the ground (like thunder). Once more on the					

	Evoluator
	for our God is a
	God with and godly:
10.	If we have been given such a kingdom, we are admonished to have grace to serve
	which cannot be moved.
	are founded upon the rock, Christ Jesus, will be unshaken, described here as a
	fall in a heap, but only that which is built correctly remains. So, only those who
	area where earlier there were not earthquake building codes. Most of the buildings
	those things which cannot be shaken will remain. It is like a bad earthquake in an

Meditation: "Consider Him who endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." Hebrews 12:3

Come, Christian, look up, look forward, and be of good courage. Though thy afflictions are many, and thy conflicts great; though weary *in*, yet be not weary *of* the ways of the Lord. Verily, in due time we shall reap an harvest of eternal felicity, after all our present toil and labour. Faint not. Continue to the end. Persevere in the work of faith, labour of love, and patience of hope. The battle is the Lord's. Thy foes are all conquered. Victory is obtained. The crown is held forth by thy conquering Lord. Press on.

But, alas! thou findest contradiction from every quarter; from within and from without. Numerous foes rise up against thee, Thy strength is small. Thy power weak. Most true! But know thy calling. Study thy privileges. Behold, thy Comforter holds forth a reviving cordial to thy drooping spirits. "Lest thou be weary and faint in thy mind," consider Jesus. Here is faith's mystery, the christian's triumph; hence derive fresh life and vigor to thy fainting mind.

Consider Jesus, in His Divine nature; thy covenant God; in His human nature, thy redeeming Brother; as God and man in one Christ, thy full salvation, thy almighty Saviour. Consider Jesus in His innocent life, enduring contradiction of sinners against Himself on thy account; fulfilling all righteousness for thee; that thou mightest be perfectly righteous in Him. Consider Jesus on the Cross, bearing thy sins amidst taunts and jeers, making atonement for thy transgressions. Consider Jesus entered into heaven, and appearing in the presence of God for us. Consider Jesus infinite in wisdom to know thy wants, infinite in love to sympathize with thee in all thy sorrows, infinite in power to support and strengthen under all. Consider what infinite riches of grace He has in glory to supply all thy need. O consider the fullness of grace that dwells in Him for needy sinners. Live upon His fullness day by day, so as to receive out of His fullness grace for grace.

"Has the blood of martyrs proved the seed of the church?" Confident we are, the life and death, the blood and righteousness of Jesus are the life of our graces, the spring of our comforts, the support of our weary minds, and the only reviving cordials for our fainting spirits. Are we panting sinners at His footstool? Consider Christ makes us joyful before His throne now. Soon we shall be eternally happy in His presence. Imitate the father of the faithful. Be not weak in faith. Consider not thy own body, which is dead because of sin. Know the Spirit is life, because of the righteousness of Jesus. Romans 8:10

Taken from: Treasury for the Children of God by W. Mason