

Acts to Revelation
Bible Course
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 _____ of witnesses. Like they, we are to lay aside every weight (as a runner puts off all the extra clothes and things) and the _____ (now comparing spiritually) which so easily beset us, and run with _____ the race - looking to Jesus (goal, finish line), the _____ and finisher of faith.

2. Why did Jesus run this race as the great breaker (Micah 2:13) for His Church? For the _____ set before him (His black Bride), he endured the _____, despised the _____, and now is at the right hand of the _____ of God.

3. Why would Christ endure such a _____ of sinners (enemies) against Himself? It is incomprehensible. If Christ endured the cross and the fierce wrath of God against sin, then we should not _____ the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when we are rebuked of Him, because whomever the Lord loves, he also _____ (lovingly but firmly corrects) just like a father chastens his sons. Those who do not receive chastening, don't have a father; these boys are called _____ (illegitimate child).

Endurance



The Christian life is not a short sprint for a temporary medal. Paul compares the Christian life to the Grecian runs which were days long. It is a lifelong marathon where runners, by God's grace, deliberately and actively use the means, read Scripture, study, keep the Sabbath, assist others, fellowship...endure.

Paul says that an earthly father corrects and the children then give _____
to their dad. Should we not much more be in _____ to God the
Father, and live. It is never _____

to be chastened, but 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.)

4. In the last part of chapter 12 (v. 12-29), Paul warns all about rejecting God's grace. We are to make _____ (Biblical) paths for our feet, and not stray on crooked paths. Christians are called to follow _____ with all men and _____. These two things are noted by Paul as without which no man will _____ the Lord (in heaven). Then Paul gives several warnings:
- _____ springing up in the heart;
 - Being like _____ a profane person who sold his _____.
What did he seek (even with tears), but never found? _____

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 _____.

Mt. Sinai vs. Mt. Zion

Mount Sinai stood out in a terrible sublimity against the sky. It was not only sublime, but stern and tempest beaten. God came upon Sinai with his Law and the dread mountain became a type of what the law would be to us. It has given us a grand idea of holiness, but it has not offered us a pathway thereto, nor furnished a weary heart with a resting place, nor supplied the hungry with spiritual food. Here is a great contrast between the economy of Law and the economy of Grace. Every good thing is enhanced in value by its opposite. Light is all the brighter to eyes which have wept in darkness. Food is sweeter when you have known hunger. And Zion is fairer 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



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. _____,
 - g. _____,
 - h. _____,
 - i. _____.”
9. If we are come to such a place as Mt. Zion, let us not do like the Israelites who would not hear it anymore. 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 day of Judgment, God will shake the earth and the _____, only those things which cannot be shaken will remain. It is like a bad earthquake in an area where earlier there were not earthquake building codes. Most of the buildings fall in a heap, but only that which is built correctly remains. So, only those who are founded upon the rock, Christ Jesus, will be unshaken, described here as a _____ which cannot be moved.

The fifth warning:

***LISTEN! Do not ignore
God's warnings. There is
no escape for those who
do not repent and
believe.***

10. If we have been given such a kingdom, we are admonished to have grace to serve God

_____ with _____ and godly
_____ : for our God is a _____ .

Evaluator: _____

Meditation: Hebrews 12:3

“Consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.”

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 “A Spiritual Treasury for the Children of God” by W. Mason