

**Scripture:** Hebrews 10:32-39; 11:1-16; 12:1-4

**Singing:** 241:1, 5, 9 – 141:1 – 184:1-3, 6-7 – 29:1-3 – 82:1-3

A. Hebrews 12:2-4 draws attention to the greatest Hero of faith

1. Focus of Hebrews 12:2 is on Jesus' faith

a. Word gives four purposes for this focus on Jesus

b. Word directs us to *look* and *consider* Him

2. What aspects need to be in focus?

a. Jesus' faith in running His Father's course

● definition of 'Author and Finisher'

b. the way of how Jesus ran His Father's course

#### JESUS'S RUNNING OF HIS RACE

I. His motive in running II. His endurance in suffering the cross

##### I. Jesus' motive in running His race

A. Jesus' race was His Father's business for him: Luke 2:49; 18:31-33; 22:37

1. It was the journey of suffering penalty of sin on behalf of His people

B. Jesus' motive was *the joy set before Him*: what was this joy?

1. Not just the *joy of the prospect of the end of His suffering*

2. More the *joy of the ultimate fruit of His suffering to His God and Father*

3. Also the *joy that His labor would redeem the world He made* (John 3:17)

## II. His endurance in suffering in His earthly race

A. It is the **joy in faith** that *strengthened Jesus* to endure in His earthly race

1. we need this 'joy in faith' also will we endure in our *appointed race*
  
2. this teaching underlines again the importance of faith
  - a. It is faith in God that overcomes the world (1 John 5:4; Heb. 11)
  
3. saving faith unites us personally with the Lord Jesus and His Father

B. What are we to eye in faith to have this joy in faith in enduring the race?

1. God's promises in Scripture
  
2. Jesus' suffering and death on cross ending with His final victory

C. Behold the Captain: *He endured cross and the inexpressible shame of it!*

1. Cross was the *ultimate climax* of Jesus' lifetime of suffering and shame
  
2. Jesus has always been *shamed from His conception to His death*
  - a. His entire life is wrapped in *shame*
  
  - b. His death is *ultimate shaming in Jewish/Greek culture*
  
3. Look and consider *how* He endured this journey of the cross

D. What did His enduring the cross, despising the shame do?

Close: The Spirit reveals He is not ashamed to call us His brethren (Heb. 2:11)

A. Who are these brethren?

B. What does it mean He is not ashamed to call us His brethren?

C. Hear His promise to the shameful and guilty who place their trust in Him

Romans 10:11 *For the Scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed*

Ps. 31:1 *In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness*