HEBREWS

CHAPTER 12

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses (refers to the Old Testament Saints who looked forward to the coming Promise, Who is the Lord Jesus Christ, and what He would do at the Cross to Redeem mankind), let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily beset us (we can do this only as we understand that all things come to us through the Cross, and that the Cross must ever be the Object of our Faith, which then gives the Holy Spirit latitude to work within our lives), and let us run with patience the race that is set before us (the only "weight" God will allow in the running of this race is our taking up and bearing the Cross, and doing so constantly [Lk. 9:23-24]),

² Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our Faith (Jesus will carry us through till the end, for this is what the word "Finisher" means, providing we keep our eyes on Him and what He did at the Cross; He is the Source, while the Cross is the means); Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the Cross, despising the shame (but the Cross was necessary, that is if man was to be redeemed), and is set down at the Right Hand of the Throne of God. (Him being "set down" refers to His Work at the Cross being a "Finished Work," and the fact that He is set down at the "Throne of God" means God has fully accepted His Sacrifice.)

The Expositor's Study Bible

JIMMY SWAGGART

KING JAMES VERSION

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