

# Running the Race!

## Hebrews 12:1,2 - Psalms 1:1

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses... (We have many fans cheering us on from the heavenly grandstands, while here on earth we are in the arena where our race is taking place.)



Let's lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith... lest you get wearied and faint in your minds." (Heb.12:1,2) **So run....** (1Cor.9:24) We run because we believe that the Bible is God's Word, which gives us strength to run the race of life with dignity and integrity.

## Success or Failure in Life - Psalms 1:1,2

Of all the songs and psalms that King David wrote the first two verses sum up our success or failure in life.

"Blessed is the man that **walks not** in the counsel of the ungodly, **nor stands** in the way of sinners, **nor sits** in the seat of the scornful. (Psalms1:1)

## Instead of Running we Start Walking

"Blessed is the man that **walks** not in the counsel of the ungodly..." (People not accepting God: Dictionary).

We slow down from running; we start walking and listen to the theories of man. Theories coming to us through TV, the net, friends, books, newspapers, social media, you name it. It is a daily barrage and we want



to be seen as open-minded and politically correct. We start accepting the Bible on the one side and the theories of man on the other side, thinking that the truth must be somewhere in the middle.

We move away from the Rock, Jesus, whose name is 'the Word of God'. "Maybe it was good for Sunday school, but now we are wiser. At least wiser than God and what he told us in his word." We start building the house of our life and our alleged faith on the sandy theories of man instead of the Rock of God's word. When the storms and floods of lies will gush forth, our house and our faith might not stand, but instead be washed away.



"Be warned, in case anyone spoils you through philosophy and useless deceit, after the traditions of men and the principles of the world, and not after Christ." (Colossians 2:8)

## After Walking, We Stand Still

"**nor stands** in the way of sinners..." We get tired of walking, as the counsel of the ungodly has tired us out. We stand still and discover that the way of the sinners is actually quite tempting and not as bad as it is made out to be. "Just chill, man! Try this!"



"Not so bad now, is it? What is your problem? Come on! No one needs to know, as no one sees." "Yes, what the heck? Everyone does it. Why should I walk the straight and narrow?"

Thus we join the treadmill chasing the money instead of "seek first the kingdom of God, and his standards; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33)



## 'Hey, Don't Stand there, Take a Seat'

"**nor sits** in the seat of scornful..." We get tired of standing as unbelief has taken its toll, and we sit down and start scorning the runners who continue in the race. By now they have become fanatics in our eyes, we disassociate ourselves from them to escape that feeling that we messed up.



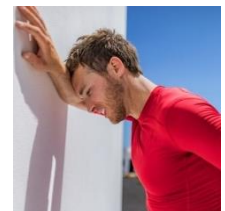
We might even attend church every so often to keep ourselves free from the guilt of not running. We choose a church where they preach about how much God loves us no matter what and where the radical scriptures, that make us feel uncomfortable, are avoided.

"You are for them a very lovely song... they hear your words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they show much love, but their heart goes after their greed." (Ezekiel 33:32,31)

## What Went Haywire?

"You did run well; **who did hinder** you that you should not obey the truth?" (Galatians 5:7)

"Nobody hindered me; I just got tired of running and this Bible business, Okay? I am my own boss and I can do what I want and make my own decisions you know?"



"There is more to life than the Bible.. I need a break.. Just leave me alone."

"That's fine; we all make our personal choices. Hope you'll do alright. Please excuse me, I got to keep up and don't want to fall too far behind the front runners."

"Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you fulfil it." (Colossians 4:17)



### How to Keep Fit? - Psalms 1:2



The next verse says, "But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law does he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he does shall prosper."

If we stay faithful in his word we will bear fruit in due season. It might be winter season, but spring, summer and harvest time will come.

The leaves of our tree are our works for the Lord and helping others and they shall not wither but are evergreen perennials.

### What Kind of Rebels Are We?

"Rebellion is not what most people think it is,

rebellion is when you turn off the TV and start educating yourself and thinking for yourself."

G. Nascimento



### "All Slumbered and Slept"

"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins... And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept."



Jesus gives us story after story and parable after parable about getting ready. 'The ten virgins' were all believers in Jesus. However the foolish weren't foolish like we perceive foolishness to be, they were just too lazy to take the oil in their vessels; they were too lazy to commit God's word and promises to heart and memory. Instead they relied on the sermons of the preacher and pastor to be their survival when the floods hit.



"Speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits:" (Isaiah 30:10)

Listening to a preacher once a week is not building your Ark to survive the flood of lies that will flood the earth. Their preaching is not an excuse that we can use when we stand before the Lord. "But my preacher said..." The return question will be: "What did I say in my word?"

"If you continue in my word, then you are my disciples indeed." (John 8:31)

### When the Devil Tempted Jesus, Jesus Answered, 'IT IS WRITTEN...' (Matthew chpt. 4)

IF JESUS NEEDED TO QUOTE SCRIPTURES TO RESIST THE DEVIL, HOW MUCH MORE SHOULD WE.

The Devil is 'the father of lies' (John 8:44), that's his job and he is good at it. But don't let the liar scare you.

### None of us are Stronger than the Devil.

Jesus did not mess around with the Devil by saying, "How dare you talk to me; I'm Jesus, the Son of God."

None of us can claim any position, name or religion to resist the Devil. Only God's word is strong enough to withstand the lies, as Satan cannot handle the truth.

Noah built the Ark to survive the flood, so we will have to build our spiritual ark to survive the coming tsunami of lies that will flood the world.

WE BUILD OUR ARK BY MEMORIZING SCRIPTURES.

Memorize those that are personally strengthening you and those that pertain to our future.\*

\* (see pamphlet 'Vital Scriptures to build our Ark')

Link: [Vital-Scriptures-to-build-our-Ark-print.pdf](http://Vital-Scriptures-to-build-our-Ark-print.pdf) ([johanpeters.in](http://johanpeters.in))



Don't be lulled to sleep. The express train of God's Will is running right on time.

As the universe turns on a precision timetable, so we have arrived at the threshold of time in world history where hundreds of prophetic scriptures are about to be fulfilled. Better know and prepare accordingly.



Don't prepare like this guy!

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