

# Jesus: God's Final Word

## A Faith that Finishes

Hebrews 12:12-17

**The Great Imperative:** "... let us run with endurance the race that is set before us ..." (12:1)

As we run ...

If we belong to Christ, we can count on the invincible determination of God to \_\_\_\_\_.

God promises to \_\_\_\_\_ us out of \_\_\_\_\_ for us.

After all, we are His \_\_\_\_\_, and he wants what is eternally \_\_\_\_\_ for us.

This " \_\_\_\_\_ " comes in many forms ...

And when God's discipline comes, we must:

Hebrews 12:12-13

Recall Isaiah 35:1-10:

*We have to get up and get going again, knowing ...*

Don't \_\_\_\_\_ the struggle.

Don't \_\_\_\_\_ the reward.

Don't miss the \_\_\_\_\_ of the discipline.

**Run to the end:**

Hebrews 12:14-17

Where does "peace" come from?

<sup>11</sup> For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. (Heb. 12:11)

(And remember – the more \_\_\_\_\_ discipline I have, the less \_\_\_\_\_ discipline is required in my life!)

<sup>25</sup> Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you. <sup>26</sup> Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways. <sup>27</sup> Do not turn to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil. (Prov. 4:25-27)

The correlation between personal peace and holiness ...

Where does a "root of bitterness" come from? (And what is it?)

<sup>18</sup> Beware lest there be among you a man or woman or clan or tribe whose heart is turning away today from the Lord our God to go and serve the gods of those nations. Beware lest there be among you a root bearing poisonous and bitter fruit, <sup>19</sup> one who, when he hears the words of this sworn covenant, blesses himself in his heart, saying, 'I shall be safe, though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart.' (Deuteronomy 29:18-19a)

**Some hard lessons from a hard life:**

When you don't sufficiently \_\_\_\_\_ the most important thing, you'll \_\_\_\_\_ it in easily for far lesser things.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are woefully insufficient goals to live for.

Some bad decisions cannot be \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>17</sup> Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done. (Heb 12:17 NIV)

At some point, \_\_\_\_\_ is no longer \_\_\_\_\_.