

"RUN YOUR RACE"

Run the race of faith

Hebrews 11 (This is the context of which Ch.12 is set in.)

- Abel, Enoch, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac blessing Jacob, and Jacob blessing Joseph, Moses, and many others:
 - (11.6) they ran their RACE not to be seen but to find their reward in God!
 - These people lived to please God
- (11.13-16)
 - They never received their promise (land) but desired a better one, a heavenly home
 - They know their race would lead them home: they were stranger and pilgrims.
 - They run to go to a heavenly home.
 - They run and God is not ashamed of their race, He is not ashamed to say "I am your God!"
- (11.32 - 40)
 - They were beaten and killed - does this sound like the race you can find joy in?
 - vs.38 - the Bible says the world is not worthy of them!
 - The world is not worthy of people who love God like this, do we? Do you?
 - **vs.39 These believers finished their Race (notice the grueling endurance that was needed to finish) believing in the promise of God!
 - They Obtained a good Testimony!
 - Through FAITH!
 - Their testimony affected others then - other believers and those who persecuted them.
 - Their testimony should effect us today!
- These are the great cloud of witnesses found in Ch12.
All of ch12 expounds on the character, the moral fiber, of the Runners in Ch11 and at the center of their character is the example of Christ!