



## WHAT TO DO WITH JESUS

Part 1 - Looking Unto Jesus

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### HEBREWS 12:1-2

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

### INTRODUCTION:

The word "looking" in this verse means to "consider attentively." Here are some visual images of what that may look like.

### SHOW PICTURES

These verses give us at least three reasons to **look unto Jesus** or **consider him attentively**, knowing that what we give our attentive too will dominate our lives. The Book of Hebrews contains much teaching on faith, including the famous Chapter 11 that lists many heroes of faith from the Old Testament, but the writer can give us no more important place to look for the building of our own faith than the person of Jesus Christ Himself, who is the "author and finisher" of our faith.

Everyone uses faith in some form or fashion, faith in your employer, mate, banker, doctor, a child taking parents word (eat it it's good for you) etc, faith for the Christian is simply taking **God at His Word**.

### NUMBER 1. Jesus The OBJECT of our faith.

A. We begin this faith life by "looking away from something unto something."

MESSAGEKEY **BLUE** - Notes **RED** - Scriptures **BLACK** - Message **GREEN** - Quote

**HEBREWS 12:1**

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us

- B. Those things that stop us or slow us down in the race, or pursuit of the prize.
- C. We are in a "race" to obtain a "prize." The Prize is Christikeness, the restoration of our Person in the Image of God.
- D. This is "life more abundant."

**ROMANS 8:29**

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

**2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-4**

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, <sup>4</sup> whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

**JOHN 10:10**

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

- E. Three things that hinder us, Satan, Sin, Self. What is our response to these enemies of Faith. Stop Satan - **MARK 16:17**, Say No to Sin - **PROVERBS 1:10**; Surrender Self - **MATTHEW 26:39** (the hardest of the three).

**MARK 16:17**

And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;

**PROVERBS 1:10**

My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent.

**ROMANS 6:11-14**

Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. <sup>13</sup> And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of

righteousness to God. <sup>14</sup>For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

**MATTHEW 26:39**

He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

**NUMBER 2.** Jesus The EXAMPLE of our faith.

**HEBREWS 12:2**

looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- A. Jesus is the greatest example taking God at His Word.
- B. The goal of faith - "the Joy set before Him." The purpose God had for His life, one day He would be Savior of Mankind and Lord of All.
- C. He faced many obstacles on the way, same as us, Satan, Sin and Self and hatred of Religious leaders. He COMPLETED the work and COMMITTED himself to God.

**JOHN 17:4**

I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.

**LUKE 23:46**

And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.' " Having said this, He breathed His last.

- D. Real faith, when you know God's plan for your life, can endure anything and obtain the prize. "He is Now Set Down at the Right Hand of God."

**PHILIPPIANS 2:8-11**

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of death*, even the death of the cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and *that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord*, to the glory of God the Father.

- E. He did and you can also. Study the Life of Christ in the Gospels and see His example of Faith in God.

### NUMBER 3. Jesus the DEVELOPER of our faith.

#### **HEBREWS 12:2**

looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- A. Four aspects of a developing Faith.

1. Faith as the sum total of our belief in God and the Bible.

#### **1 THESSALONIANS 3:9-10**

For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, <sup>10</sup>night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?

2. Faith as a principle of living.

#### **ROMANS 1:17**

For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

#### **ROMANS 10:9-10**

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

3. Faith as the beliefs we fight for.

#### **JUDE 1:3-4**

Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. <sup>4</sup>For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord <sup>[a]</sup>God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

4. Faith as the Force that TAKES what God has provided.

#### **MARK 11:24**

Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.

**NUMBER 4.** Confident that He will finish what He began in our lives.

**PHILIPPIANS 1:6**

being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ;

**CONCLUSION**

I want to invite you as someone who is contemplating belief, to invite Jesus Christ to be savior and lord today. To all believers, I encourage you to “Look attentively to Jesus” for the remainder of your lives.