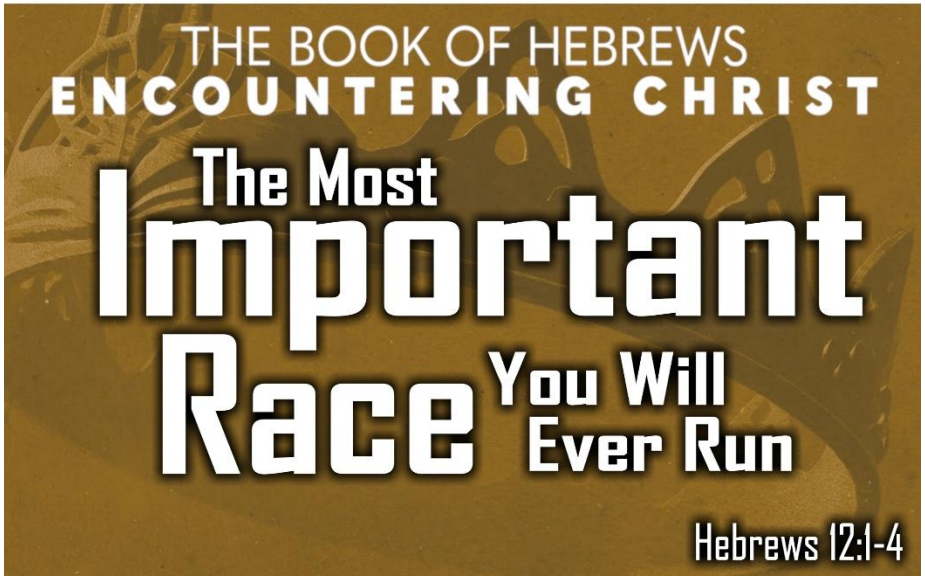
Pastor Joe's Sermon Listening Guide



Dr. Joe K. Taylor, Senior Pastor, South Reno Baptist Church, Reno, NV • November 8, 2026
All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted • Chair Bible Page # 176 (in the NT Section)
In some places, God's Word is underlined with dots with Pastor Joe's commentary in the bracketed, lighter faced text.

A. What Does "Therefore" Mean?

1. **Jesus is greater than all the OT Prophets** (Heb. 1:1-2)
2. **Jesus is greater than all the Heavenly Angels** (Heb. 1:4-14)
3. **Jesus' message is grand and we must not drift from it** (Heb. 2:1-4)
4. **Jesus became one of us to save us** (Heb. 2:14-18)
5. **Jesus is greater than Moses** (Heb. 3:1-6)
6. **Jesus wants His people to enter His rest** (Heb. 3:7—4:13)
7. **Jesus is our Great High Priest** (Heb. 4:14-16)
8. **Jesus is greater than all other priests** (Heb. 5-7)
9. **Jesus offers a greater covenant** (Heb. 8)
10. **Jesus ministers in a greater sanctuary** (Heb. 9)
11. **Jesus is the greatest sacrifice** (Heb. 9:26; 10:10-14)
12. **Jesus alone offers us direct access to God** (Heb. 10:19-25)
13. **Jesus said to endure this evil world—it will end** (Heb. 10:35-39)
14. **Faith in Jesus has always been God's ONLY way** (Heb. 11)
15. **The *great cloud of witnesses* is cheering us on** (Heb. 12:1-4)

Therefore... - Heb. 12:1a

B. What Do The Witnesses Say to Us?

To Finish **The Most Important Race You Will Ever Run**, You Must...

1. Remove Any Hindrances

Hebrews 12:1a, NLT - [1] Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up....

A. Lay aside every weight

Hebrews 12:1a, NASB95 – [1] Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance....

B. Lay aside every sin

Hebrews 12:1b, NASB95 - [1] and the sin which so easily entangles us....

You cannot run freely while carrying what Christ died to remove.

2. Run with Endurance

Hebrews 12:1c-, NLT - [1] ...And let us run with endurance [GK: *ὑπομονή hu-po-mo-nḗ, hu-po* means "under," *mo-na* to "remain hopeful"] the race [of faith in] God has set before us.

"I will not quit!" - Louis Zamperini

3. Reach for the Goal—JESUS!

Hebrews 12:2–4, NASB95 - [2] fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy [ie., to see with spiritual eyes] set before Him *endured the cross*, *despising the shame*, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. [3] For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. [4] You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin....

Travel light! Run with endurance! Fix your eyes on Jesus!
Finish the race God has set before you.