

# Monday, February 27th

## Hebrews 12:1-2

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. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. <sup>2</sup> We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.

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The writer is reminding us that we are not the first, nor will we be the last, Christians that must endure tough times. There is a great cloud of witnesses that have run the race, persevered and endured the toughest of times, encountered ridicule and even persecution. However, when our eyes are fixed on Jesus every single day, the tough times become easier because we are filled with the strength of the One who was beaten, crucified, and buried. Yet it is the same power that raised Jesus from the grave that fills us with strength to endure each day.

