

Running To Win

Don't Let Anyone
Cut In On You

August 30, 2026



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1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (NIV) — 24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. 25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 26 Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. 27 No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

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- 1. Life Is A Race To Be Won Or Lost*
- 2. In Order To Win Discipline And Training Are Essentials*
- 3. There Is A Reward For The Winners*
- 4. The Reward Lasts Forever – A Winner's Crown*
- 5. We Must Run A Good Race To Not Be Disqualified*

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A Victor's Crown Would Be Short-Lived

We Run For A Crown Is Lasting And Will Not Fade Away

Crowns Are Rewards For A Race Well Run

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WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO WIN THIS RACE?

- *Strict Training*
- *We Must Discipline Ourselves*
- *We Are Not "Air Boxing" "Beating The Air" "Shadowboxing"*
- *If You Want To Win You Need To Press Ahead For The Prize*

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Galatians 5:7–8 (NIV) — 7 You were running a good race. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the truth? **8** That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you.

- ***Who Cut In On You?*** *Warnings To Runners In The Last Days*
- *Many Hurdles & Obstacles Have Been Added To The Course*
- *These Are Warnings To Us As We Run Our Race*

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Galatians 5:7–8 (NIV) — 7 You were running a good race. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the truth? **8** That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you.

- They Were Running A Good Race
- Something Happened To Slow Them Down And Trip Them Up and Cause Them To Fall

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1. A REMINDER OF THE GOOD START:

- (7) You were running a good race

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2. A CALL FOR A SPECIAL INVESTIGATION WHAT HAPPENED?

- **(7b)** Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth?

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3. FIND THE CULPRIT... WHO DID IT?

- **(7b)** Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth?

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4. WHERE DID ALL OF THIS TROUBLE COME FROM?

(Gal 5:8 NIV) That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you.

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3 WAYS THAT SATAN WILL TRY AND CUT IN ON US:

CONDITION #1: APATHY

Apathy Is A Lack Of Emotion Or Interest

The Race Is Never Won By The Apathetic

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Apathy Is When We No Longer Care :

"I do not believe the greatest threat to our future is from bombs or guided missiles. I don't think our civilization will end that way. I think it will die when we no longer care."

Lawrence Gould

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A Survey Of Voting Habits In An Area Of Chicago Some Two Decades Ago Showed:

- ☐ *99% of the tavern keepers voted.*
- ☐ *97.5% of the gamblers and their employees voted.*
- ☐ *Only 17% of the Protestant ministers voted.*
- ☐ *Only 29% of CHRISTIAN PROTESTANTS VOTED*

"This civilization died because it didn't want to be bothered."

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Apathy Describes The Last Days Church Of Laodicea

Revelation 3:14-22 (NIV) (14) "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. (15) I know your deeds, that **you are neither cold nor hot**. I wish you were either one or the other! (16) So, because **you are lukewarm**--neither hot nor cold--I am about to spit you out of my mouth. (17) You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.

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(18) I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. (19) Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. (20) Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. (21) To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. (22) He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

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Hebrews 6:12 (NIV) (12) We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

- **DON'T LET APATHY CUT IN ON YOU**

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CONDITION #2: PRIDE

- PRIDE'S SOURCE IS SATAN
 - *Pride Goes Before Destruction – It Trips Us Up In Our Race*
 - (i.e.) Pharaoh, Goliath, Nebuchadnezzar, Haman, Lucifer, & Israel Allowed Pride To Cut In On Their Race.
- ❑ Proverbs 16:5 (NIV) (5) The LORD detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished

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WHAT IS THE ANTIDOTE FOR PRIDE?

It Is Holiness – Brokenness -- Humility

- ❑ **James 4:6 (NIV)** — 6 But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”
- ❑ **1 Peter 5:6 (NIV)** — 6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

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CONDITION #3: DELAYED DREAMS

- God's Delays Are Not Denials; We Must Learn To Wait On The Lord
- **Joseph Had A Dream:** He Was Thrown In A Pit, Sold Into Slavery, He Ended Up In Prison On Trumped Up Charges -- Yet In All That He Held On To This Dream
- Hold On To Your Dream When It Is From God -- Because God Can And Will Do Awesome Things

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THOSE THAT WAIT, WILL RECEIVE WHAT HAS BEEN PROMISED!

Hebrews 10:35-36 (NIV) ³⁵ So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. ³⁶ You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

Psalms 40:1 (NIV) ¹ I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry.

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THOSE THAT WAIT, WILL RECEIVE WHAT HAS BEEN PROMISED!

Isaiah 30:18 (NIV) ¹⁸ Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

Lamentations 3:25 (NKJV) ²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him.

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GOD WILL COME THROUGH

- **He's got this**
- **His timing is impeccable**
- **These are times to stretch and grow**
- **God's Delays Are Not Denials**
- **Finish The Race In Victory!**