

The Race Doesn't Go to the Swift

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For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”



Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward *man* is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.



Truth

Sometimes life doesn't go as planned



I returned and saw under the sun that—
The race *is* not to the swift,
Nor the battle to the strong,
Nor bread to the wise,
Nor riches to men of understanding,
Nor favor to men of skill;
But time and chance happen to them all.



Daily Walk

1. Read the Bible with a submissive heart.
2. Pray without ceasing.
3. Gather in fellowship with other believers often.



To Hear God More Clearly

1. Stop rushing through scripture



Psalms 1:2 NKJV

But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD,
And in His law he meditates day and night.



To Hear God More Clearly

1. Stop rushing through scripture
2. **Stop filling every quiet moment**



Psalms 46:10 NKJV

Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!



To Hear God More Clearly

1. Stop rushing through scripture
2. Stop filling every quiet moment
3. **Stop outsourcing your relationship with God**



John 10:27 NKJV

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.



To Hear God More Clearly

1. Stop rushing through scripture
2. Stop filling every quiet moment
3. Stop outsourcing your relationship with God
4. **Stop treating prayer like it's a monologue**



1 Samuel 3:10 NKJV

Now the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."



To Hear God More Clearly

1. Stop rushing through scripture
2. Stop filling every quiet moment
3. Stop outsourcing your relationship with God
4. Stop treating prayer like it's a monologue
5. **Stop trying to fit God into your “leftover” time**



Matthew 6:33 NKJV

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
and all these things shall be added to you.



But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.



Question

Do I trust God even when my plans don't work out?



2 Timothy 4:2-5 NKJV

Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. ⁵ But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.



2 Timothy 4:7-8 NKJV

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.



We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.



Yet not I, but through Christ in me.



Truth

What Jesus did for you and me
leaves us without excuse!



We want to be able to say

1. I have fought a good fight.
2. I have finished the race.
3. I have kept the faith.



Quote

You are where God wants you to be at this very moment. Every experience is part of God's plan.

- anon

