

Monday, March 7, 2016

Let Us Lay Aside Sin

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

You cannot really talk about this passage without studying about the great cloud of witnesses, which are discussed in chapter 11. The men in chapter 11 were true men of faith. They served God in good times, as well as the times when serving God was the hardest thing to do. After considering the great cloud of witnesses, the writer of Hebrews has an interesting exhortation to his audience. He encourages his readers to lay aside every weight and sin. How often do we look at sin as a weight? Whether we realize it or not, sin is a weight that holds us back from accomplishing what God wants from us.

Thankfully, we have an example that we can look to. Jesus is the one who paved the way for God's people. By his example, we can know what it means to lay aside sin. We need to fight temptation to the best of our ability. Also, we can take our petitions to God and He will hear us. Prayer is a way in which we can connect to God. He will help us lay aside sin, but we have to be willing to ask for help.

Because sin weighs us down, we need to lay aside the sin in our lives. Let us look to God for help in that pursuit.

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