

“Eyes Fixed on Jesus Leads Us Into Our Future”

50th Anniversary Celebration
Hebrews 10:23, 25 and 12:1-3

I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago. I will meditate on all your works and consider all your mighty deeds.

Psalm 77:11-12

1. Hold fast!

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful...

Hebrews 10:23 NASB

Hope focuses us on the future!

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Hebrews 11:13-16

The confession of our faith in Christ brought us not only immediate pardon and present blessings, but also secured for us the promise of heaven!

Our hope must not waver!

First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised?..."

2 Peter 3:3-4

God who promised is faithful!

2. Don't give up!

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:25

3. Run with perseverance!

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Hebrews 12:1

The writer probably has in mind those hindrances which may not be sinful but would prevent progress. In the case of these readers, it was perhaps too great an emphasis upon their traditions.

4. Fix your eyes on Jesus!

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:2-3

Christ provides our incentive for faithful persistence.

Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

Philippians 3:13-14 NLT

***Hold fast the hope!
Don't give up on the church!
Run the race with perseverance!
Keep your eyes on Jesus!***

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

Jude 24-25