



FOUNTAIN OF HOSANNA CHURCH OF CHRIST

BIBLE STUDY SERIES: "FINISHING STRONG" #1

Tuesday, 2 July 2019

Key Scripture: 2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. NKJV

Introduction

Not all Soldiers that go to war return home. Not all starters are finishers; not all ideas mature, but you shall end well in Jesus' name, Amen. A Soldier of Christ is bound to, constrained to and strictly controlled by the Lord's rule and he is without self-will in the matters of Heavenly Jerusalem and in pleasing God – 2 Timothy 2:4. Every saved soul is set into the race for an eternal home in Heaven. We must run the race patiently (Hebrews 12:1), walk the race circumspectly (Ephesians 5:15) and live wisely among the unbelievers – Colossians 4:5 without being stained by their sins, read Jude 22.

Do not be a worshipper from afar, just walking around the kingdom of heaven, knowing God's truth but not doing it, following God's people about but not the God of the people – John 6:22-25 paddling about 6 km on the sea in search of bread for life instead of Bread of Life!) and performing excellent lip worship, eye service but not heart of worship – Matthew 15:8. Strive, work hard, do all within you to finish strong and enter the kingdom - Luke 13:24.

Finishing strong means

- **Happy ending** - Isaiah 35:10
- **The gainful ending** - Philippians 2:21
- **The glorious ending** - 2 Timothy 4:8
- **Dying empty** – *"For I am already being poured out like a drink offering..."* **2 Timothy 4:6**, without any treasure, left because they are all laid up in Heaven.

Today, we shall consider the first of the four (4) parts of this series – 'Finishing Strong'. For as many, whose faith is on the line of extinction, they shall receive spiritual boost and encouragement, Amen. The 'least' you can utter at this perilous hour is to comfort one another with your words - **Ephesians 4:29** *Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.* NLT

A. Divine Purpose

Philippians 1:6 - *And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.* NLT. This, however, depends on how faithful, available and teachable we are to God.

1. Purposed for Completion

The Almighty is too faithful to fail in accomplishing His work in us – *Faithful is He who calls you who also will do it* – **1 Thessalonians 5:24**. Our calling is not to fall short but stand tall against all



FOUNTAIN OF HOSANNA CHURCH OF CHRIST

BIBLE STUDY SERIES: "FINISHING STRONG" #1

Tuesday, 2 July 2019

odds of life. There is safety for perfection with Him – 2 Samuel 22:33. He confirmed His support and assurance to Zerubbabel on his project, and of His ability to see him through - Zechariah 4:9. His work is perfect and without addition Psalm 18:30. He will complete that which he started with you, Amen.

2. Designed for Excellence

One of the manifestations of the Glory of God is Excellence. Excellence is best displayed through the unfathomable workings of the wisdom of God. Isaiah 28:29. Excellence does not pitch its tent in failure or mediocrity, because it is Divinity in Humanity. God gave great wisdom and knowledge to Bezaleel to help Moses in accomplishing the visions given to him – Exodus 31:1-11.

3. Made to Last

Every ardent follower of Jesus is made for super-abundant support. Psalm 92:12-15. You are made to last; to inherent super-natural support. An erring Soldier of Christ has the promise of restoration by The Almighty. Shame and disgrace will become alien to you – Joel 2:26b *"Never again will my people be disgraced like this."* We are built on the Jesus Christ Himself, the Chief Cornerstone – Ephesians 2:20. Really, we are lively stones - 1 Peter 2:5. Our composition is of eternal values of Heaven on earth and that is why the enemy fights against us, but God daily supplies us with adequate and sustaining benefits - Psalm 68:19. Do not fret because God has more than enough.

4. Built for Glory

John 2:11 - *This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.* NKJV. Christians 'carry' God and they radiate the beauty of God - 1 Corinthians 3:9 and Isaiah 61:3 *...they will be like great oaks that the Lord has planted for His own glory.* NLT. This is exclusively reserved for the people of God enjoy – Isaiah 54:14-17.

Conclusion

Be steadfast. Stay focused on God. Remain fervent in the grace of God and in the power of His might. He is the unfailing and strong anchor of your soul. Let Him run with you and make your journey sweet. Let Him bear your burden. He cares for you. Ephesians 3:20-21

Next Week

The series continues as we shall consider the types of finishing in this 'race'. Pray along and expect the trumpet to sound at any moment. Maranatha!