



Sunday, April 24, 2022

Pastor Don Denyes

Intro to Hebrews 12:1-2

Many people refuse to come to Christ because they themselves have not seen Jesus. They did not witness the miracles He did. They did not hear Him teach as One who had authority. They did not sit with Him and talk with Him and eat with Him. Perhaps most pointedly, they did not witness His death and resurrection. In their case, they might say that “seeing is believing.”

But for the Christian, we “see” Jesus not with our physical eyes, but with the eyes of faith. We believe His word. We see Him as the Holy Spirit illumines our minds to understand the truth, beauty, and goodness of Jesus. And when we see Him in this way, it is the surest antidote to weariness and despair in the Christian life. So, as we come to His word once again, let us “see” Jesus in a way that renews our minds, quickens our hearts, and strengthens our faith.

Context

This is something of a climactic moment in the Book of Hebrews. While the true climactic moment in the book comes at the end of chapter 12, the argument about faith that the author has been making throughout chapter 11 finds its fulfillment in Jesus. Abel, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and the rest all served as echoes of genuine faith down through the generation, but only Jesus is the sound itself—the author and perfecter of faith. So, when we consider what the life of faith and faithfulness looks like, Jesus ought to be primary.

Read and Reflect *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Hebrews 12:1-2

“Keep Running”

Look Back

Look In

Look Up

Discuss

- 1) How would you summarize the testimony of the “great cloud of witnesses”? To what are they witnesses?
- 2) What are the sins that so easily entangle you?
- 3) How is the battle against sin going in your life?
- 4) How does looking to Jesus enable us to battle against sin?
- 5) What else is helpful to us as we seek to run the race with endurance?