

## “Hebrews #16”

### Hebrews 12: 12-17 (Recap)

*Review: Last week... Heb. 12: 3-17*

- V7... “If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons.” (NKJV)
- (NIV)... **“Endure hardship as discipline.”**
- V10... **“He disciplines for our good, that we may share His holiness.”** (ESV)
- V11... (Read) – (ESV)

**12: 12-17 we finished with these verses. We had tremendous input.**

**The main idea:** In order to finish the race of our Christian faith. (Chapter 12:1) **We must clear all obstacles**, encourage one another, strive for peace, and heed the warning of the examples we are given.

### **V's 12-13...**

**Albert Mohler:** *“The race may be grueling, even deadly, but we do not run in vain... we have reason to strengthen our tired hands and weakened knees. We run for the joy set before us... If your going to run a race well, you will need a clear path... we need to free ourselves from the kinds of obstacles and dangers that are designed to trip us up. We must arrange our lives so that sin’s opportunities to ensnare us are significantly reduced.”*

### **Isaiah 35: 3-4... 8-10 (Read)**

- **A highway... that is our path.**
- **V10... The ransomed will come to Zion. (This is important as we continue our study)**
- **V's 22-24 – Next Week...**

## Isaiah 40: 3-5 (Read)

**V 14...** Strive for peace and the holiness that comes from God.

**Albert Mohler:** *“Here the author is using the term holiness to describe those pursuing the Lord. This does not mean those who run are perfect or sinless, but it does mean they are fighting sin and living faithfully. No one will see the Lord without this holiness.”*

- This is a holiness that has been imputed to us.
- We are to strive or surrender to what the H.G. has given us.

**V15...** “Do not fall short of the grace of God: lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble.” (NKJV)

- How do we obtain the grace of God... **We become people of forgiveness!**
- We have two options: FORGIVE or become BITTER!

**Corrie Tin Boone:** when confronted by one of her former prison guards... Asked forgiveness.

*“Forgiveness is setting the prisoner free, only to find the prisoner is you.”*

**Chad Bird: Book Limping with God.**

*“The life of a disciple of Jesus is an odd existence... It is difficult, it is never easy to go against the cultural flow. On occasion, it means being labeled the enemy. In the worse cases, it means being martyred... To say, be a Christian is to mean, be a human being recreated to bear the image of God in Christ and so fully to be the person that our Creator wants us to be. For that reason, not seeking revenge, not returning evil for evil, while difficult inasmuch as we are sinners, is also radically fulfilling inasmuch as we are the children of a merciful and forgiving God.”*

**St. Ambrose wrote:**

***“No one heals himself by wounding another. Rather, we are all healed – wounder and wounded alike – in the crucifixion scars of our forgiving Lord.”***

**V16... “Lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau.” (NKJV)**

**1 Cor. 6: 18-20**

***“Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Our do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own. For we are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.” (NKJV)***

**V 17... Finally: Don’t be like Esau, who sold his birth right for a bowl of lentil stew.**

**Heb. 10:29**

**“Of how much punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace.” (NKJV)**