

Jesus IS Here! Running the Race June 3, 2017

Salvation is the only requirement to run the race for the crown! Without salvation you are disqualified and cannot approach the starting line. Once we are at the starting line we need to listen for the starting pistol. When the pistol fires we need to know what the rules are, what lane you're in, how to get over the hurdles and where the finish line is. There is always someone running beside us so let us not run their race; let us run our own.

His Gun: Choose

Ecclesiastes 9:11

There are two types of runners in this race; those who pick up Jesus and go on their way and those who are picked up by Jesus on His way! If your choice is to pick Him up every time you run, your race is for you and there will be no reward because all of your works will be thrown into the Lake of Fire. If you wait for Jesus to pick you up on His way the Crown of Life is going to be your reward because your works will be His work. Life happens to everyone therefore we should choose to do it with Jesus rather than alone.

Psalm 119:30; Proverbs 16:3-4; Isaiah 14:24; 1 Corinthians 3:9-15

His Rules: Obedience

Hebrews 12:1

We cannot win any race with the weight of disobedience on us therefore the first rule is always going to be 'lay aside every weight (disobedience) and the sin that so easily ensnares us.' It is the weight on our soul that causes us to sin. Name a weight, then a sin that will follow along with it.

2 Timothy 1:12; Psalm 32:8; John 14:15; Revelation 22:14-15

Your lane: focus

Acts 20:24

Every work we do for Jesus is called a ministry because as a result it will testify to the gospel of the grace of God! Our focus has to be clear about what Jesus has told us to do, what He has gifted us to do and what lane He wants us to run in. Your ministry is from the Lord therefore do not count your life dear to yourself lest you get into someone else's lane and be disqualified.

Proverbs 4:25; Romans 8:5; Proverbs 3:5-6; Isaiah 43:18-19

Your hurdles: Believe

2 Timothy 4:7

The biggest hurdles we will every come across will be our unbelief. Our God will use anyone for His purpose including you. We might find we are jumping hurdles we think may be meant for someone else because we couldn't possibly be called to do that! God's purpose for you was written before time itself so YES you could possibly do that but you will not do it alone.

Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6; Philippians 4:13

Our finish line: Hope

1 Corinthians 9:23-25

You can overcome! The hope of Heaven is great and you have that but what about those who work out their salvation? The hope they have is better than heaven. It goes beyond heaven, it goes to Eternity living with Jesus in the New Jerusalem.

Philippians 2:5-13; Revelation 1, 2, & 3

This race is not your own. Every step you take in your own lane in the name of Jesus is a light shining so brightly to others, people will see your works and glorify God. You are chosen to run this race and I believe you will be an overcomer who lives with me in the New Jerusalem. Read Revelation 21 if you want to know what the New Jerusalem will look like. It will be the best place

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ever to spend eternity so run your race the best you can with obedience and focus, believing in the hope of eternity.

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Jerusalem: Was, Is, & Is to beCome!

Was:

- Settled in 4th millennium B.C. One of the oldest cities in the world.
- First called Salem or Shalem (from Shalom) (Genesis 14:18) City of Peace
- Attacked 52 times, captured and recaptured 44 times
- Besieged 23 times and destroyed twice
- 2500 BC - First Houses Built in Area
- 1000 BC - King David Conquers Jerusalem; Declares City Capital of Jewish Kingdom
- 586 BC - Babylonian Forces Destroy Jerusalem and Demolish First Temple
- 70 AD - Roman Forces Destroy Jerusalem and Demolish Second Temple
- 1967 AD - Israel Captures Jerusalem's Old City and Eastern Half; Reunites City

Is:

- Its elevation is 2600 feet above sea level - that is 3.5 x the renaissance center
- It is 33 miles or 53 Km from the Mediterranean Sea
- Population: Non-Arab - 534,000; Arab - 316,000 Total = 850,000
- West Jerusalem belongs to the Jews while Arabs occupy the East
- Money: New Israeli Shekel 1 Canadian Dollar = 0.38 Shekels

To beCome:

- Psalm 122:6
- Luke 21:20-24
- Revelation 11:1-2
- Revelation 11:3-15
- Revelation 21 and 22

Biblical Names:

The City of David, The City of the Great King, The Holy City, Salem, The City of God, The City of the Lord of Hosts, The City of Righteousness, The City of Truth, The Perfection of Beauty, The Joy of the Whole Earth, The Lord our Righteousness, The Lord is There, Ariel, the Heart of God, Zion.

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The most important information contained in this learning is the future of Jerusalem. Israel will be no more but Jerusalem will be forever the City of God where He lives and WE WANT IN!