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Jews 12:1-11 savedbyhim01 2019-04-01T14:28:25+00:00 A. Look at Jesus. 1. (Hbr 12:1) Applying examples of lasting faith in The Jews 11. So we are also, as we are surrounded by such a large cloud of witnesses, let us set aside every weight, and sin that will so easily prevent us, and let us run with the endurance of the race that is set before us as well. as in sports competitions. i. The idea of past heroes of faith as spectators, watching us live a life of faith, makes some think that in heaven people can and watch what is happening on earth. This single passage may indicate it, but it is to no avail to prove it. ii. We rightly think of heaven as a place where people are always happy and unresolved. It is hard to think that those in heaven are happy and unresolved if they see what is happening on earth. So, it's hard to say that people in heaven are actually watching us. iii. Others believe that these witnesses do not witness us as we drive our lives. Instead, they are witnesses of faith and endurance. iv. Both Greeks and Hispanics often use the term cloud to express large numbers of people or things. (Clark) b. Put aside every weight and sin: Sin can hold us back. But there are also things that cannot be a sin (every weight), but are only obstacles that can prevent us from effectively running the race God has for us. i. Our choices are not always between right and wrong, but between something that can prevent us and something else that can't. Is there a weight in your life you should put aside? c. So easily shower us: Words easily ensnares translate a heavy ancient Greek word (euperistaton) that can be translated in four ways: easy to avoid, admire, ensnaring or dangerous. Let's put them all aside: . Some sins can be easily avoided, but not. . Some sins are admired, but must be put aside. . Some sins are inseverable and therefore particularly harmful. . Some sins are more dangerous than others. ii. If such sins were indeed a work of demonic possession or demonic influence in a Christian, it would be an ideal place for the Holy Ghost to address this issue. However, we are never given reason to blame our sin on demons; a call simply for us, in the power of the Holy Ghost, to set aside every weight and sin that so easily hardes us. d. Let's run with stamina: What it takes is stamina to finish what we started in Jesus Christ - a race that is set before us. i. God has set the race before you. You have to run it and that will involve effort and commitment. Being passive never runs or wins Race. God wants us to run the race and finish it right. ii. Endurance is necessary to run this race. Stamina translates to the ancient Greek word hupomone, which does not mean patience, which sits down and accepts things, but patience that masteres them... It is determination, unhurried and yet unrepentated, that steadily goes further and refuses to be rejected. (Barclay) iii. In Acts 20:24, Paul portrayed himself as a runner who had the race to finish, and nothing would keep Paul from finishing the race with joy. In this passage,

