



When You Feel Like Giving Up

Hebrews 11:35-12:2

Battles in the unseen war:

- 1. The battle inside of you – your own sinful nature.**
- 2. The battle around you - the world.**
- 3. The battle against you - Satan.**

Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated--the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect. (Hebrews 11:35-40, NIV)

3 truths about faith:

- 1. Faith doesn't spare us from pain.**
- 2. Some of God's promises won't be fulfilled until eternity.**
- 3. We can't receive the prize at the end of the race until we finish the race.**



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Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2, NIV)

How to keep running when I feel like giving up:

- 1. I need to remember that heaven is watching me.**
- 2. I eliminate what doesn't matter.**
- 3. I have to run God's race for me, not other people's race for me.**
- 4. I focus on Jesus, not my circumstances.**
- 5. I minimize the pain and maximize the reward.**
- 6. I think about what Jesus did for me.**