

Open to Hebrews 12

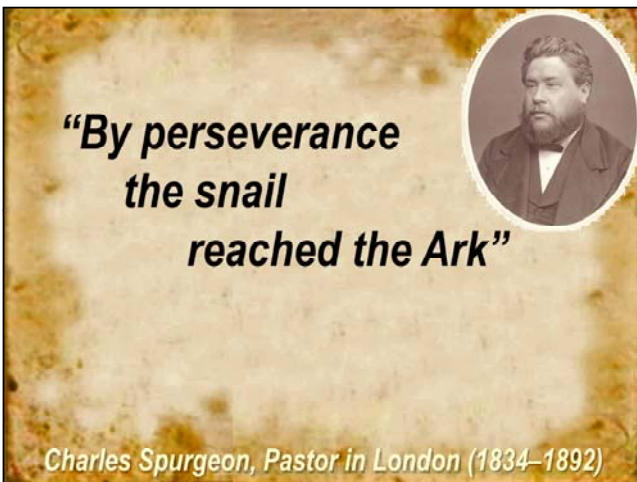
One of my favorite sayings is....
(next slide)

...For you have need of endurance..
...Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

1



Interesting picture, isn't it?

- Snails travel .03 mph
- Take a day & a half to go 1 mile
- Snails need endurance
- You and I need endurance

It is this idea of endurance, perseverance that I want to draw your attention to today.

...For you have need of endurance..
...Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

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2

Endurance

Act, quality or power of persevering or lasting to continue in existence, to remain

- Often through hardship, difficulty or stress

ὑπομονή hupomonē

- lit - to remain under
- trans - Patient, endure, continue
- Refers to that quality of character which does not allow one to surrender to circumstances or succumb under trial.



Endurance...let's define it

Greek word (used in our text)

Hupomone – lit remain under

- Upo – under
- Meno – remain, abide

It is this word, thought, that I believe God is holding before us in Hebrews 12...

...For you have need of endurance..

...Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

3

Therefore we also...(v1)

...let us run with endurance (v1)

looking unto Jesus..who..endured..cross (v2)

For consider Him who endured...(v3)

If you endure chastening...(v7)

Subject of endurance begins in Heb 10:36



Hebrews 12

As we begin Hebrews 12 today

- Have to admit...excited
- Wonderful chap-great truths, so many nuggets for us to glean

But I ask you to consider, that they under riding theme is to encourage and call us to endurance.

Notice the repetition of the word

Yet...theme, thought does not begin here...continuing from Hebrews 10:36 (look there)

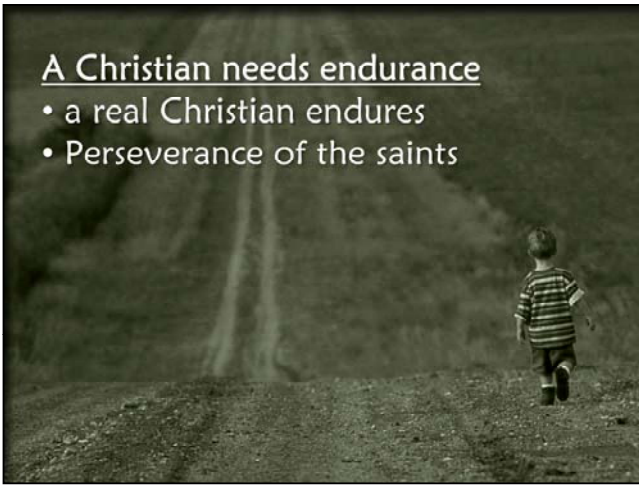
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4



A Christian needs endurance

- a real Christian endures
- Perseverance of the saints

Hebrews 10:36

Christians need endurance

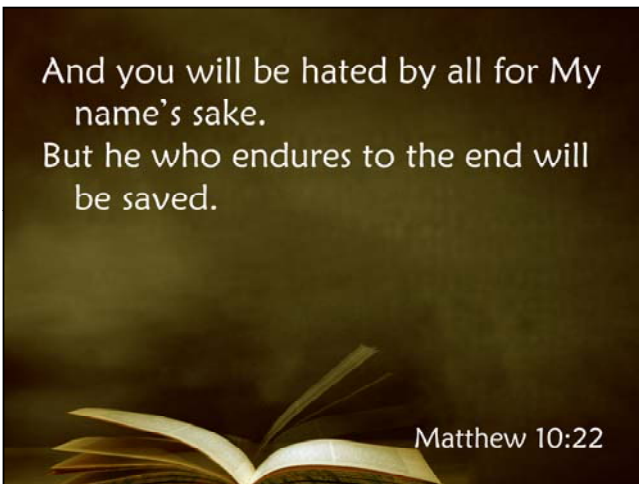
- Consider this thought:
A Real Christian Endures
- Theologically, sometimes referred as The Perseverance of the Saints.

...For you have need of endurance..
...Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

I want you to consider...is true
(look at next scripture slides)



And you will be hated by all for My name's sake.
 But he who endures to the end will be saved.

Matthew 10:22

...For you have need of endurance..
...Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

And because lawlessness will
abound, the love of many will
grow cold.
But he who endures to the end shall
be saved.

Matthew 24:12-13

...For you have need of endurance..

*...Now the just shall live by faith; But if
anyone draws back, My soul has no
pleasure in him."*

But we are not of those who draw back to
perdition, but of those who believe to the
saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded
by so great a cloud of witnesses, *...let us
run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

7

By your patience possess your souls.

Luke 21:19

Through patience, endurance, we
keep our souls....

...For you have need of endurance..

*...Now the just shall live by faith; But if
anyone draws back, My soul has no
pleasure in him."*

But we are not of those who draw back to
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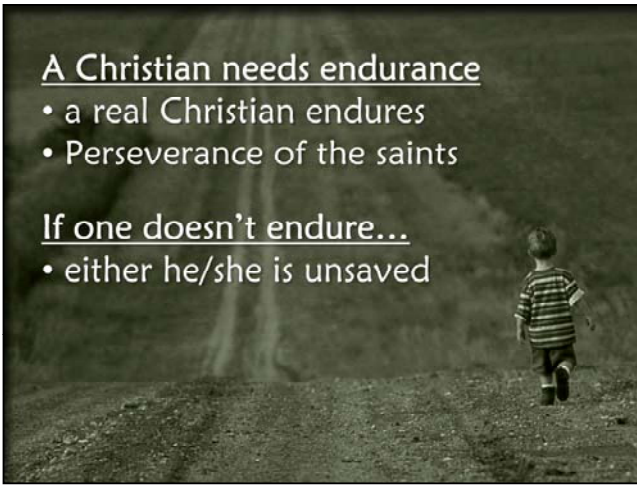
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A Christian needs endurance

- a real Christian endures
- Perseverance of the saints

If one doesn't endure...

- either he/she is unsaved



...For you have need of endurance..

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But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

Notice, this thought is clear in Hebrews 10:36-39

- just live by faith (v.38)
- If anyone draws back...(v.38)
- draw back to perdition (v.39)

Lets ask couple of hard questions

What if one doesn't endure?

Really only two options

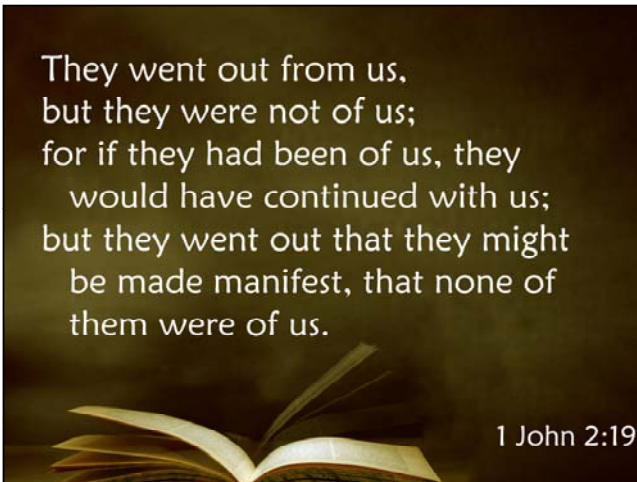
- 1) They are and have been unsaved. Any pretence of being a Christian was only external

(next slide-1 John)

9

They went out from us,
but they were not of us;
for if they had been of us, they
would have continued with us;
but they went out that they might
be made manifest, that none of
them were of us.

1 John 2:19



...For you have need of endurance..

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But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

Pretty clear, is it not?

If someone does continue – they leave, walk away to make clear, to make manifest that they were never really saved

Hard truth...but truth it is

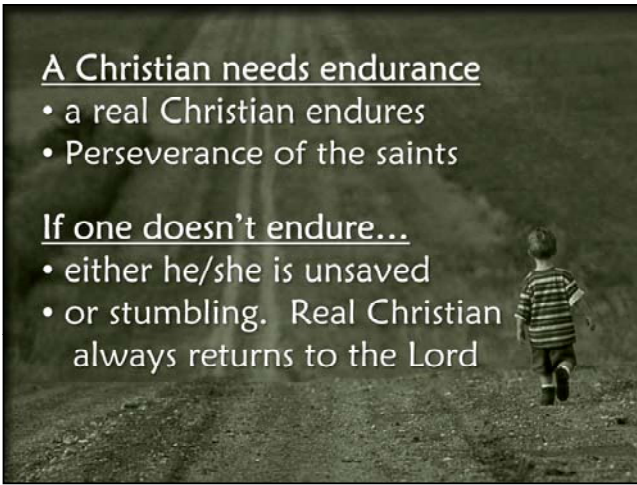
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A Christian needs endurance

- a real Christian endures
- Perseverance of the saints

If one doesn't endure...

- either he/she is unsaved
- or stumbling. Real Christian always returns to the Lord



Second possibility if don't endure

- May be unsaved...
- May be saved...but stumbling
 - Christians do stumble
 - Scripture, history and simply many lives here prove it

If a real Christian – will return

- Not an “if”, but a “when”
- I think of Jesus words to Peter... when you have returned (Next slide)

...For you have need of endurance..

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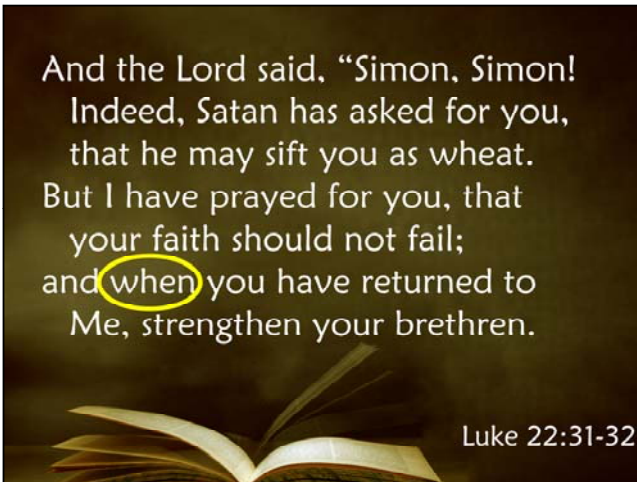
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11

And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and **when** you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.

Luke 22:31-32



Peter, Simon would fail
Sin, pull back, even away
Jesus is praying for him...
Notice...when

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A Christian needs endurance

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If one doesn't endure...

- either he/she is unsaved
- or stumbling. Real Christian always returns to the Lord
- if someone isn't enduring, we must assume they are unsaved



...For you have need of endurance..

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But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

Key point – if someone isn't enduring, we must assume they are unsaved.

- Haven't lost their salvation, but the assurance of salvation.
- Stop and think about not just technically....but personally
- for me, for you...know some

13

A Christian needs endurance

- a real Christian endures
- Perseverance of the saints

Is Endurance God's work or man's?

- Biblical answer....YES
- God Sovereignly keeps us



...For you have need of endurance..

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A Christian must endure

Another difficult question

Whose work? God's or man's?

- Huge debate among Christians
- Biblical answer is YES, both!

Bible shows us that the solidness of our salvation is because of God, that He sovereignty keeps us (*next two slides*)

14

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

John 10:27-28

...For you have need of endurance..
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Jesus says clearly

- no possibility for His sheep to ever perish
- None can rob them from His or God's hand...none!

Some like to play with this, and say none can rob, but you can walk out

- Not what it says
- None – includes you
- Firm – His sheep cannot perish

15

being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ

Philippians 1:6

...For you have need of endurance..
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What God starts, He finishes, always

16

A Christian needs endurance

- a real Christian endures
- Perseverance of the saints

Is Endurance God's work or man's?

- Biblical answer....YES
- God Sovereignly keeps us
- Christians are commanded to endure, warned about



...For you have need of endurance..

...Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

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So, salvation, perseverance of the saints – is God's work

But is **also** the Christians

- We are called, commanded to endure, warned about not
- How is it both?
 - Some hold one theological position nullifying others
 - (did whole study in Heb 6)
 - I believe is both

If you hold only sovereignty

- See that one of the ways He keeps you, is by commanded to endure.
- Call you today to hear how to endure

If you hold responsibility only

- Think take too much on self, miss hope
- Yet, call you too – hear how to endure

No matter what position is yours...

- call in Hebrews 12 – how to endure

17

How God encourages endurance

- How God does NOT encourage us
- Cloud of Witnesses? Observers?
 - No! Witnesses is "martyr" – example
 - Would scare many "stage fright"
 - Would encourage wrongly
 - God does not encourage us...
 - with pride
 - with appearances
 - with guilt
 - with pressure



...For you have need of endurance..

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How God encourages endurance

Begin by how He DOES NOT

- Who are cloud of witnesses?
- Observers? Grandstand above?
- No! Not the word used
- Word is Martyr–example, witness

A stand of heavenly observers

- would not encourage many – scare us with real stage fright
- would encourage us wrongly
- God does not encourage us with Pride, appearances, guilt or pressure

(Next slides)

18

“Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them.

Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 6:1

If we do it for appearances, for others to see – invalid

- selfish, appearances,

...For you have need of endurance..

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19

How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God?

John 5:44

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...Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.”

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20

But all their works they do to be seen by men.... "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.

Matthew 23:5,26-26

...For you have need of endurance..

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21

Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.

Matthew 23:5,26-26

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God's call...is on the inside

22

And do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the renewing
of your mind,
that you may prove what is that
good and acceptable and perfect
will of God.

Romans 12:2

Conforming is pressure from
without

Transforming is change from within

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How God encourages endurance

- How God does NOT encourage us
- Cloud of Witnesses? Observers?
 - No! Witnesses is "martyr" – example
 - Would scare many "stage fright"
 - Would encourage wrongly
- God does not encourage
 - with pride
 - with appearances
 - with guilt
 - with pressure



...For you have need of endurance..

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Why am I emphasizing?

Does not ends justify means?

NO. So important that you hear

God does not use pride, etc.

People do, churches, Christians do

Problem with pride, guilt...

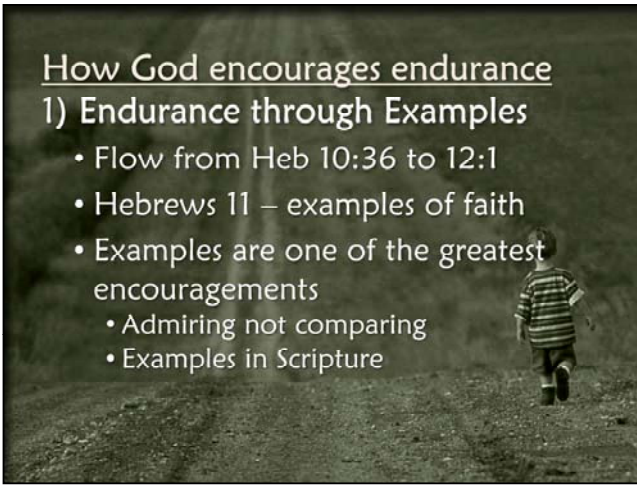
- works...wrongly
- works...limited... dissipates
- Some of you need to hear this,
right now, what is motivating
your Christian life is wrong. If it
is a man, teacher etc – like a drug
fix. Passion, anger, appearance
fade...need your fix to keep
going. That is not God.

24

How God encourages endurance

1) Endurance through Examples

- Flow from Heb 10:36 to 12:1
- Hebrews 11 – examples of faith
- Examples are one of the greatest encouragements
 - Admiring not comparing
 - Examples in Scripture



...For you have need of endurance..

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How does God encourage us?

- Want you to see how He does not
- Yet, now...He does He do it

In Hebrews 12 – at least 5 ways

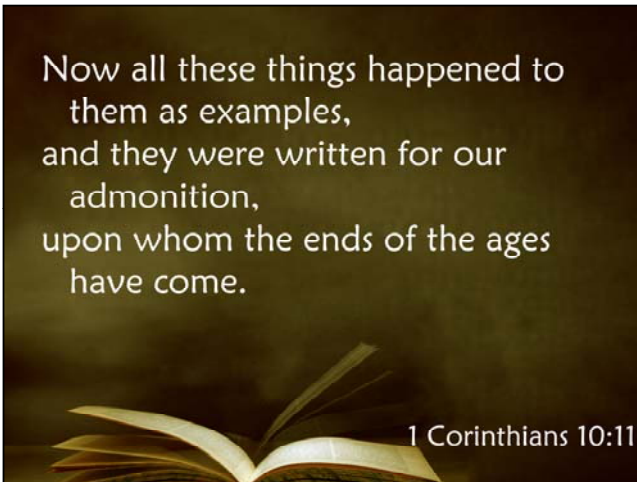
- Today, we have time for only 1

1) Endurance through Examples

- Again began in Heb 10, flows till beginning of Heb 12
- Chapter 11 is for encouragement to endurance
- Examples are one of the greatest encouragements in Christian life
 - Not THE greatest...ONE
- Key – admiring, not comparing
- Have examples in Scripture
(Next slide)

25

Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.



1 Corinthians 10:11

...For you have need of endurance..

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What we have in the Word, is not just history. Not a history book.

What is here, is for us to see, and been encouraged from.

Intentionally that way

- Our need is to read it that way
- Not just gleaning facts...but looking for encouragement

26

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the **patience** and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

Romans 15:4

Notice the word patience in this verse. It is the same Greek word – it is endurance!

Through the endurance of scripture!

...For you have need of endurance..

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27

How God encourages endurance

1) Endurance through Examples

- Flow from Heb 10:36 to 12:1
- Hebrews 11 – examples of faith
- Examples are one of the greatest encouragements
 - Admiring not comparing
 - Examples in Scripture
 - Examples in history (biographies)

...For you have need of endurance..

...Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

So 1st – have examples in Bible

But have more-in history

- In Heb 11, have references to works of faith, beyond what is listed in the Bible. Such as being sawn in two.
- Point being, the examples God has for us, can, should be beyond this.
- Biographies are very needed
 - Personally – very true
 - Have over 200 biographies
 - Often a source of endurance

28

imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

...whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

Hebrews 6:12; 13:7

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But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

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How God encourages endurance

1) Endurance through Examples

- Flow from Heb 10:36 to 12:1
- Hebrews 11 – examples of faith
- Examples are one of the greatest encouragements
 - Admiring not comparing
 - Examples in Scripture
 - Examples in history (biographies)
 - Examples in life...around you

...For you have need of endurance..

...Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

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So- examples, witnesses

- 1) In Bible
- 2) In history – biographies
- 3) Around us- each other
 - Can, should be this way
 - Many of you are to me

Lets put this in perspective

- We have a need to endure
- God here is giving you help
- Picture need in v.12-13
- Want today – put into your hand encouragement

30

For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:
...But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Hebrews 10:36-39

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I put to you again...we need to endure...need it

Those who draw back...do so to perdition.

We are not that...Christian, you are not that. But you need to endure.

Today, in your hand – give you examples to encourage you

31

**"By perseverance
the snail
reached the Ark"**



Charles Spurgeon, Pastor in London (1834-1892)

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The snail

- slower than others perhaps
- always making progress
- that is God's plan...progress

32

And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through **faith** and **patience** inherit the promises.

Hebrews 6:11-12

...For you have need of endurance..

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But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

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Desire this for each one of you
Show diligence to end-endure
Not sluggish...slowing down
Imitate – examples

- Thru faith & patience
- Patience is word endurance

Today...this is my prayer

33

And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

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Today...this is my prayer
Imitate and inherit

34

For what if some did not believe?
Will their unbelief make the
faithfulness of God without effect?
Certainly not! Indeed, let God be
true but every man a liar.



Romans 3:3-4

...For you have need of endurance..
*...Now the just shall live by faith; But if
anyone draws back, My soul has no
pleasure in him."*

But we are not of those who draw back to
perdition, but of those who believe to the
saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded
by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us
run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

Yet for others...not yet saved
Part of problem for you, and for
believers, not all examples are
good. Seen some fall away.

What happens when someone you
are watching fails?

Will they being unfaithful effect
God's faithfulness

NO

If every person failed, God does
not...not like us

Call you to see examples, but also
past them...to God

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You have sent to John, and he has
borne witness to the truth.
Yet I do not receive testimony from
man,
but I say these things that you may
be saved.



John 5:33-34

...For you have need of endurance..
*...Now the just shall live by faith; But if
anyone draws back, My soul has no
pleasure in him."*

But we are not of those who draw back to
perdition, but of those who believe to the
saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded
by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us
run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

Love how Jesus referred to it
Notes that John has been a witness
– calls them to see his witness of
Jesus

Yet, Jesus did not depend on

Men don't support God

Points to men, for our salvation, for
endurance

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...For you have need of endurance..

...Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ...*let us run with endurance ... (Heb 10:35-39;12:1)*

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