

Why Should We Celebrate Jesus' Death - Heb 12:1-3
Communion - 01-27-13, PM

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

³For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

1. Jesus' death - authored and finished our faith

a. From Abel to the present - Heb 11

b. Completed every aspect of the Father's will - Jn 19:30 "It is finished."

1) Justified by Jesus' blood - Rom 5:9 [Read - Rom 3:23]

2) Justified by faith in Jesus - Rom 5:1

c. Endured the cross for the joy of saving His people - [Eph 1:7-10; Col 1:13-14]

d. Despised the shame of the cross as not worthy to the Father's will

e. Seated at the Father's right hand to illustrate approval and acceptance of His will

2. Jesus' death - considered, deeply thought on, for our faith

a. All believers are faced with weariness and discouragement of their souls.

b. All believers battle daily sin that easily ensnares them.

c. All believers must constantly keep looking to Jesus for strength of faith.

d. All believers must follow Jesus' example to forgive. [Eph 4:29--32; Col 3:12-15]