*Wednesday, July 03, 2013*

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James 5:7-9 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waits for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. 8 Be ye also patient; establish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draws nigh. 9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold the judge stands before the door. (KJV)

For those that have read their Bibles they see that we are close to the finish line. We also see that many have dropped out of the race and decided they would go for an earthly reward and recognition rather than waiting for an eternal one. The race we are in is not like roller derby where we try to elbow and stop others from advancing, rather we are here to make sure everyone makes it to the end. Like a farmer who plants a crop you need to give it time to grow before digging it up, otherwise it will not take root.

Hebrews 10:36-39 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. 37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. 38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man drawback, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. 39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul. (KJV)

The Lord is the only author and finisher of your faith who can get you home safely. If you are not waiting on Him daily to hear His instructions first hand then you are settling for something second hand. God gave us His best and His Son finished the course for our benefit, so in the end you really don’t want to give Him something second hand in return do you? Many withdraw from the race because of a lack of faith and patience.

2 Corinthians 5:17-19 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new. 18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. (KJV)

There is a little word with a big meaning in verse 17; it’s a word that is so vital for those that are running this race. Only those that are “IN” Christ are partakers of His divine nature; because simply put, if you are not on the inside then you are outside. Nothing concerning the kingdom of God will work for you unless you are in Christ. Take note of the fact that God was in Christ; so if you have accepted Christ into your life, you too have a lot working in you also. If you want God working in and on your behalf then you need to stay “IN” Christ for that to happen.

Ephesians 1:3-5 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, (KJV)

A spiritual course was mapped out for you personally to run before the foundation of the world. The Lord has the only way that will get you home. Are you a part of the “IN” crowd, or did you strike out on your own?

Something to ponder dearly loved; God bless and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.