*Monday, July 11, 2011*

**The End**

Matthew 24:10-13 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. (11) And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. (12) And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. (13) But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. (KJV)

If you notice, at the end of a movie they run the credits to show you those who were involved. As we see illustrated above, many begin with the Lord and I am sure some had good intentions, but in the end they won’t be credited with eternal life. I have seen many who get giddy and excited over those that give their lives to the Lord which is a great start; however, our Lord is just as concerned with seeing His people endure to the end.

James 5:8-11 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. (9) Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door. (10) Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. (11) Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy. (KJV)

While watching some of the sporting events come to a conclusion last month, hockey and basketball in particular, you see the ups and downs of these athletes and the endurance it takes to finish the season. Sometimes it seems like nothing is happening in your walk with the Lord while other times the blessings just overtake and overwhelm you. The point is that we continue this endurance race to the end, knowing and not just guessing who the real author and finisher of our faith truly is.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: (2) A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; (3) A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; (4) A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; (KJV)

The question now becomes, will you continue to be instant in season and what may seem like out of season, or will you allow your emotions to take over and dictate your outcome? Like with athletes, there are times that you will have to fight through injuries, or what may seem like a slump you are going through, however, in the end you know that there will be a victory dance for those that do endure.

Hebrews 12:5-7 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: (6) For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. (7) If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? (KJV)

Come on Church, you are not just some fair weather friend who says praise the Lord one day and what have you done for me lately the next are you? You are not some one hit wonder who sounded good for a season then went back into spiritual hibernation are you?

Hebrews 12:8-10 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. (9) Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? (10) For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. (KJV)

Everything that the Lord does is for our Spiritual benefit so that we can be partakers of His divine nature in Christ. So let’s lift up our hands again, and dust our self off, and move forward to the place that our Lord would have us to be today.