

III. Exhortation: perseverance in faith 12:1-11

A. Christ's victory is the motive for endurance in faith vv. 1-2

- ▶ Position of believers: in the arena of faith
- ▶ Preparation: lay aside hindrances
- ▶ Effort: run with patient endurance
- ▶ Aim: to share in the glory of Christ by sharing in His suffering

B. Discipline is necessary for faith vv.3-11

- ▶ Christ was victorious through suffering v. 3
- ▶ Sufferings are chastisements vv. 4-6
 - ▶ Believers sufferings are slight in comparison to Christ's v. 4
 - ▶ All sufferings are the wise discipline of the Father vv. 5-6
- ▶ Chastisement is the discipline belonging to sons vv. 7-8
- ▶ Earthly and heavenly discipline differ vv. 9-10
- ▶ Discipline results in righteousness v. 11

IV. Instruction: enduring faithfully 12:12-17

- ▶ Strengthen those enduring discipline vv. 12-13
- ▶ Seek peace and holiness with all men vv.14-17

- ▶ Seek peace and holiness with all men vv.14-17
 - ▶ a positive exhortation - pursue peace and holiness
 - ▶ Three warnings:
 - Falling short of God's grace
 - A bitter root
 - Unfaithfulness to God

Fifth and final warning passage

V. Believers must beware of the danger of departing
12:18-29

A. The position of Christians is contrasted with that of the Israelites under the Law. vv.18-24

- ▶ The scene at Sinai vv. 18-21
- ▶ The position of Christians vv. 22-24
 - ▶ “but” you have come v. 22a
 - ▶ the persons to whom Christians have come vv. 22b-24

B. The obligations of Christians flow from their position - the greater the light , the greater the consequences of neglecting it. vv. 25-29

- ▶ Warning: do not refuse the One speaking vv.25-27
- ▶ Final appeal: abide faithful, obtain grace to patiently endure, serve the Lord.