

If you were with us yesterday morning, you know that we started off asking a question, “Have you ever been inspired to quit?” It sounds kind of odd to use the word “inspiration” with a concept that is usually considered with something more like “desperation” or despair.

But think about it, thoughts can inspire, words paint pictures in our minds, and when you’re tired and frustrated and can’t seem to make any headway, especially when things haven’t been going that great, and others are telling you what you believe isn’t true because nobody can see it but you, the thoughts that you have can certainly inspire you... to quit! But, as we pointed out yesterday, “Where you gonna go?” Nobody but Jesus knows the answers to what you want to know or has the power for the life you want to grow, so, like Peter, you reply, **“To whom would we go? You have the words of eternal life.”** (Jn 6:68) And that’s so true! So you come to your senses, pick yourself up, and go at it again, determined to “play ‘till you win!”

You know, this is nothing new, so taking a cue from yesterday, let’s expand our view. The writer of Hebrews put this whole thing into a concise perspective long ago. But let’s look again at what we think we know. “...**having thrown off every weight and the sin that so easily snares us...**” (Heb 12:1) Remember what we said about the 91<sup>st</sup> Psalm? **“Surely you deliver me from then snare of the fowler and the noisome pestilence.” “Surely you deliver me from the trap set by the enemy through the noise in my head.”** That’s not the “sin”, that’s the “sin conscience” that the writer described in Heb 10:2. Throw off the weight dragging you down from the condemnation preached through the law and the flesh and remind yourself that, **“..all are (dikaioo) declared righteous (dorean) as a present by His grace through the redemption contained in Christ Jesus!”** (Ro 3:24) You’re a new creature! And Jn 3:18, **“The one believing into Him is not (krino) judged.”** So keep going, don’t quit! Now to verse 2!

**“Looking away from all else, (aphorao) look into Jesus, the (archegos), the architect or designer, and (teleiotes), the one who completes the building, of faith...”** He went through it, He proved it as He endured it, and even as He is seated at the right hand of God, by His Word His Spirit and His life is alive in you! So consider, mediate on, focus on all of this, **“so that you might not grow weary, fainting in your (psuche), soul, desires and affections.”** (v3)

The writer is saying what we said yesterday, break out of the box! Quit focusing on the sin! Instead, **“Stand fast in the liberty where with Christ has made you free, and be not entangled again in the yoke of bondage!”** (Ga 5:1) Remind yourself that, **“..if our (kataginosko) knowledge of past experiences blames us, God is greater than our heart, and He knows all things!”** (1Jn 1:20) He already knows everything and loves you anyway! That’s why we should live in an attitude of gratitude! He has accepted the sin offering that Jesus paid so that you can be free from the bondage of the enemy! And, **“If our heart doesn’t condemn us we have confidence interfacing with, engaging with God, and whatever we require of Him we receive from Him!”** (v21) So what now?

Shout! Sing! Dance! Praise! Preach, just like Jesus, The Jubilee. **“Proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all the inhabitants thereof!”** (Lev 25:10) It’s good news! Use your words and your life to open the eyes of the folks around you so that they can see that Jesus has set them free and empowered them in liberty, giving them authority over all of the power of the enemy! (Lk 10:19) Ahhh, it never gets old! So how do you feel now?

This is not radical, like, “out there”, but it is radical, as in “back to the root!”

Love never fails!

