

Thursday, September 29, 2005 – What are You Winning With Finale

I feel like I could go on and on with this mini-series but I will make this one grand finale....this is near and dear to my heart because so often we miss the importance to why we are going through what we're going through. God is not the enemy to His people....HE wants the best for us and that requires that we run and run under fire sometimes to draw us totally into Him. Our success is through and by Him.

I would love to spend some time reminding you of so many in the bible that had to run through seemingly insurmountable situations....but God needed them to go through those so all of us can see and be encouraged to go through too. I won't go into detail but I pray that your inner man begins to see (I mean see with a spiritual eye) the purposes for your race. My husband and I want to have children and we're praying, but I know that us not having one as of yet is part of my race. The various recent testimonies we've experienced as a couple, is part of our race. The ministry in which I'm walking in is part of my race....my very presence here in Dayton, Ohio is part of my race.....I could go on and on.....but you get the picture....this is also the case with you!

What about Ruth and Naomi (their race included loses their spouses, leaving a land and life they'd created with those men and having to start all over), or what about Esther (who was orphaned as a child and raised by her uncle Moredecai and you know about the rest of her race...) or what about Moses mother (after having him realizing that she couldn't go along with the law Pharaoh had in place that her baby along with thousands of other male children killed...she risked everything to save her son) or what about Hannah (barren because the scripture said God shut up her womb....was tormented by Penniah for being barren by God...did you ever think about that God caused Hannah *not* to have a child and Penniah tormented Hannah in church because of God's plan...not only did God answer her prayer with Samuel but gave her more children after that)....or what about Rahab (the prostitute that had enough sense to help out the spies (that's an interesting thing there....would you believe someone who said God sent them to a prostitute's house to hide out while their doing God's work?)....again, I just want to get you to start looking at some of the people in the bible and see what their race was like.....or take Joseph, a 17-year old kid who is hated by his brothers to the point where they would *sell him, lie about it and tell their father* that the boy is dead just to get rid of him and that was just the start of his race....what about Moses, Daniel, David (whose race was so involved that he lost his way and did some horrible things (murder, adultery, attempted coups by his own children, burying some of his children, a wife by the name of Michal who despised him praising God...but he asked God for forgiveness and got back on the race...)

I want to go on and on....but I'll say this and stop....please understand, I don't want you to think that when I say run the race with patience, that the moment you make up in your mind to do it, that the heavens are going to open up with angels descending to swoop you to your finish line barely ruffling your clothes...you are in war my friend....it is called spiritual warfare and the course isn't roses and bon bons....BUT we have Jesus who has given us all we need to finish this race by His grace and mercy. *You can win....if you keep on running with patience, using the weapons of our warfare....prayer, fasting, resisting the devil, putting the Word in action in your life....you've been promised by God to win!!!*

May you always remember what one scripture says...."the race is not given to the swift or to the strong, but to those that endure until the end."

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience **the race that is set before us**, Hebrews 12:1 (KJV)