



HEBREWS

JESUS IS BETTER





# The Heavenly Footman

How to get to Heaven



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INTRODUCTION BY J. I. PACKER



# Hebrews 12:1-3

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.



# Outline

- 1. Remember that you don't run alone**
- 2. Remove the hindrances to running**
- 3. Run with endurance**
- 4. Fix your eyes on Jesus**



# 1. Remember that you don't run alone

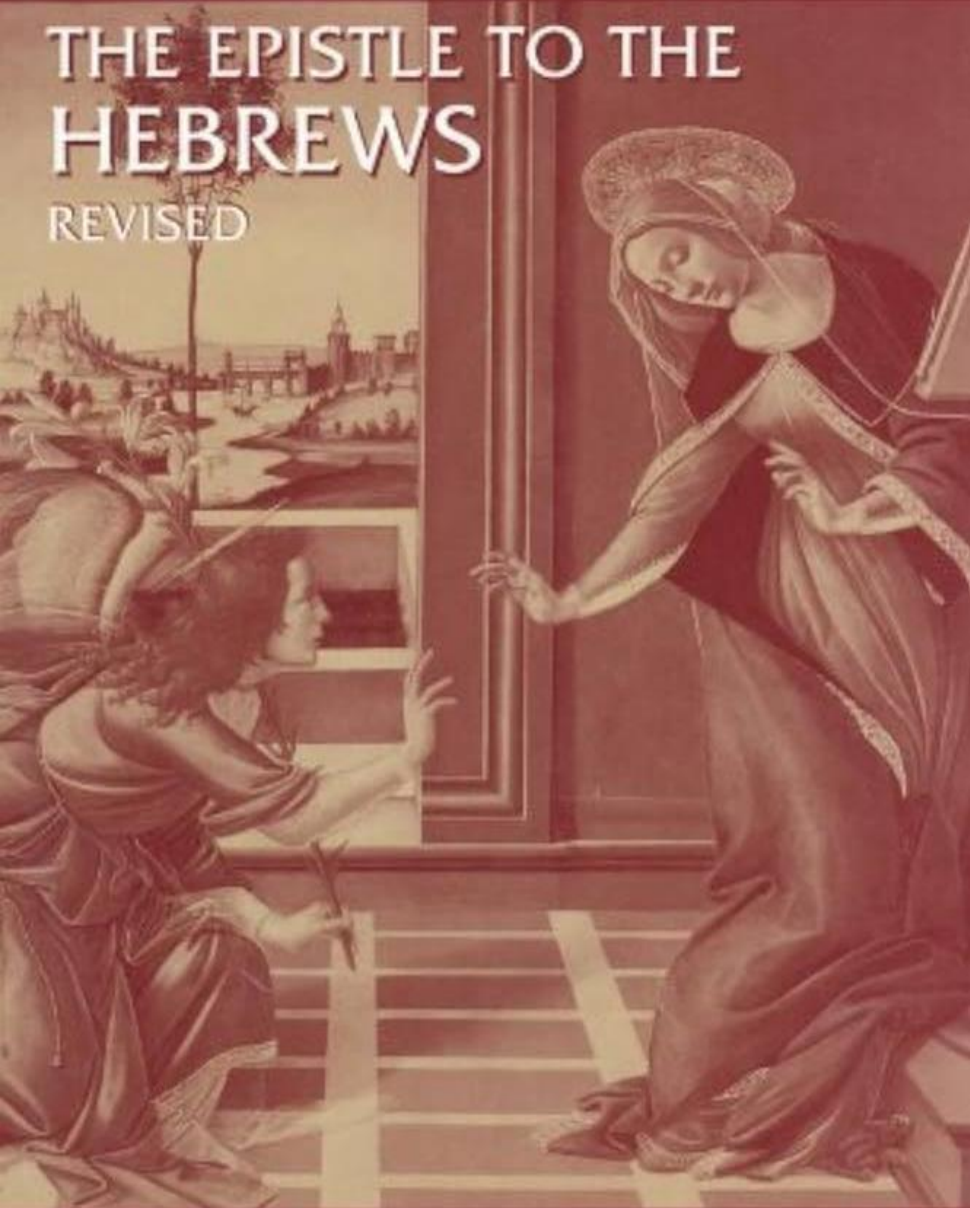
*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses”  
(Heb. 12:1a)*



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# THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

REVISED



F. F. BRUCE

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In what sense are they “witnesses”? Not, probably, in the sense of spectators, watching their successors as they in their turn run the race for which they have entered; but rather in the sense that by their loyalty and endurance they have borne witness to the possibilities of the life of faith. It is not so much they who look at us as we look to them — for encouragement.

— F. F. Bruce



# 1. Remember that you don't run alone

## We need the church

- a) History – the church before
- b) Community – the church today

## **2. Remove the hindrances to running**

*“Let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely” (Heb. 12:1b)*



## **Ephesians 4:22 (NIV)**

**You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, *to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires.***



# 1 Peter 2:1

**So *put away* all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy  
and envy and all slander.**



## **2. Remove the hindrances to running**

*“Let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely” (Heb. 12:1b)*



**Sins**

**Weights**





### **3. Run with endurance**

*“and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us” (Heb. 12:1c)*



# 3. Run with endurance

## Two aspects:

- a) **Plodding, daily faithfulness – “the discipline of showing up”**



# 3. Run with endurance

## Two aspects:

- a) **Plodding, daily faithfulness – the discipline of showing up**
- b) **Faithfulness under pressure – the discipline of holding up**



## **4. Fix your eyes on Jesus**

*“looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith...” (Heb. 12:2-3)*



# Hebrews 2:10

For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder [captain, pioneer, trailblazer] of their salvation perfect through suffering.



# Hebrews 12:2-3

<sup>2</sup> Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.



## **4. Fix your eyes on Jesus**

*“looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith...” (Heb. 12:2-3)*



# Summary

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- 2. Remove the hindrances to running**
- 3. Run with endurance**
- 4. Fix your eyes on Jesus**