**Second Dimension – Christianity Experienced**

**Segment IV – *“Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of Our Faith”* Progressive Bible Concepts - #33 “Fixing Your Eyes Upon Jesus”**

**Segment IV Focusing on Jesus – (Concept 33-43)**

* “Fixing Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

**Setting the Contest**

*“But my righteous one shall live by faith: And if he shrinks back, My soul hath no pleasure in him. But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but who have faith to the preserving of the soul.”* Heb 10:38, 39

* Shrinks back – *upostello* – aor subj mid – d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, p\_\_\_\_\_\_ back from, w\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ oneself
* Pleasure – root word means to p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Destruction – r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, perish
* Preservation – g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as opposed to losing
* *D\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Faith -* “*Faith is the a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of things hoped for, the c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of things not seen*.” Heb 11:1
* Paraphrased – faith is a firm p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of what is and a confident a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of what is to come.
* The ability to p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the invisible and to e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the unrealized

***Faith’s Hall of Fame Hebrews*** *11:1-40*

* *By faith Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, etc did amazing things for God!!!*
* *And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, because God had provided something better for us…*

*“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* Heb 12:1,2

**The author turns to the world of spots and borrows the imagery of spectators, apparel, participants, and conditions of the competition.**

***“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us…”***

* Therefore *– toigaroon –* triple compound particle that draws an e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, dramatic, c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ conclusion
* Have – exo – ‘causal’ pres act part – because we have as of n\_\_\_\_\_
* So great – one so g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as this
* Cloud – *nephos –* metaphor – The image is not of a single cloud in the sky but a single cloud that covers the entire s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Referring not only to a great t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (crowd) of people, but also who are unified in their collective witness to their cause, the cause of f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Witnesses *– martos –* one who attests or c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a reality, sometimes by their d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who finished the race and became s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of those still in the race
* Surround *– perikeimai – pres mid part –* spread all around, all e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; looking at us from all d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 



***‘…let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us…’***

* Lay aside *– apotithemi –* pres mid part *–* remove as a garment, s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, take off, lay down
* Every *–* any and all
* Weight *– ogkov-* a mass or bulk that weighs a person down, hence an o\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the weight is a hindrance
* Analogies – athletes stripping off any u\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ clothing to increase s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; bikers dropping water bottles at the end of the race right before the f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ line
* Sin – disobedience to God
* Entangles – *euperistatos* – c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ placing itself around in a c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, controlling way (b\_\_\_\_ constrictor) – hence a s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – used on here in the NT

***‘…and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us…’***

* Let us run *– trexo –* pres sub act – to move forward r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, forward p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, advance
* With endurance – *upomeno* – refusing to q\_\_\_\_\_\_, staying the course in spite of d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Race – *agona* – c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – athletic term
* Set before us – *prokeimenon* – pres mid part – lying in f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of us (*same root word for surround*) hence, the route from the s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ point to the f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ line

***‘…fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith…***

* Fixing our eyes – *aforao – pres act part - to look a\_\_\_\_\_\_ from one thing and c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on another; giving attention to one thing to the e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of others – total focus*
* Author *– arxegos –* pioneer, one who goes f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, o\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, founder
* Perfecter – *teleiotes* - one who c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to bring to its full p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and final g\_\_\_\_\_\_, cross the f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ line
* Faith – our belief in God

***‘…who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame…’***

* *Joy – general word for g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
* *Being set before – prokeimenes – pres mid part – to put in f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Him*
* *Endured – upemeinen – aor act ind – refuse to run a\_\_\_\_\_\_ from, held steady til the e\_\_\_\_\_*
* *Cross – the m\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of his execution*
* *Despising – kataphroneo – act act part – viewed c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (hated)*
* Shame – *aisxune*- d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; feeling ashamed of being a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with an undesirable act

***‘…and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* Heb 12:1,2**

* Sat down *– kathizo –* perf act ind – taken one’s seat and r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ there
* Right hand – *dezios* – right verses left, symbolizes e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of position, honor, power, and authority
* Throne Of God – seat of h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ power and d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ authority in creation

**Observations**

* Speaks in the first person – ‘*us’* – used \_\_ times
* Surrounded by previous competitors who have f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the race ahead of us who have an i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in our a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Lay aside – exercise the power of e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - know what to say “no” to
* Encumbrances – *“Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with…the a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of life.”* Luke 21:34 Anything that h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Entangles – pulled or drug into like hitting the tar baby- ‘The term has come to refer to a problem that is e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by attempts to struggle with it, or by which mere contact can lead to becoming i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ involved.’
* Fixing our eyes – exercise the power of i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - know what to say ‘yes’ to - participants in a race don’t have time to look around, eyes must be on the finish line
* Upon Jesus – Jesus is given special recognition – the OT saints are b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us, Jesus is in f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of us
* OT saints focused on the promises, NT saints focus on Jesus, the fulfillment of the promises (11:40 - *God has provided something better for us*)
* Author – originator, architect – our faith b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with Him – same root word for a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or master builder
* Perfector – *arxepgon* - completer – our faith e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with Him
* Prototype – supreme leader and ultimate model - Overcame the highest degree of d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to achieve the greatest a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – went from the cross to the throne
* Spiritual growth enhancement through the power of focus
* Elimination – ‘*lay aside’ – f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
  + *Encumbrances*
  + *Sin that snares*
* Concentration – ‘*fix your eyes’ – f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
  + On Jesus
* Author and Perfecter our faith Completion – had to *suffer the cross in order to sit upon the throne* – *e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
  + Hated the shame of the cross
  + Delighted in the right hand of God
* Hated the p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ but loved the r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Analogies:**

* Lion and the lion trainer – stool n\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the lions strength
* Rabbit and greyhounds – a lure that helps the dogs f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on to run faster
* ‘High definition spiritual growth’ is accomplished by looking to Jesus who brings the h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ possible c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or definition to our journey.

**Quotes**

* ‘*The greatest weakness of people is to try and do too many things at o\_\_\_\_\_\_.’* Henry Ford
* *C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in leadership means to be free from anything that obscures, blocks, distracts, or darkens – clouded vision leads to mediocre results.*
* Hymn
  + *“T\_\_\_\_\_\_ your eyes upon Jesus, l\_\_\_\_\_\_ full in His wonderful face, And the things of earth grow strangely \_\_\_\_ in the light of His g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* Helen Tremmel

**Primary Imperative**

* *“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ o\_\_\_\_ e\_\_\_\_\_\_ o\_\_ J\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* Heb 12:1,2

**Summary** – **Concept 33**

* *“Finishing the race requires freedom from distraction, focus on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, and Christ-like endurance to finish our course.”*

**Next Week** – **Concept 34 – Eyes Upon the Lord**