

**The Unhindered Race**

**Galatians 5:7-12**

January 6, 2019 – Pastor Nick Neves

To illustrate what the Galatians are going through, Paul equates the Christian life to \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_. (see also 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, Galatians 2:2, Hebrews 12:1-2, Philippians 3:13-14, and 2 Timothy 4:7)

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Like a runner who is aware of the course of their race, we should press on, we should focus our efforts and run hard. This takes...

- SELF- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- The right \_\_\_\_\_

...none of which we can adequately supply for ourselves! The metaphor of the Christian life as a race does not pit us in a competition against one another – we are battling against our own flesh and can only hope to succeed by the grace of Jesus Christ.

**NOTE** – The kind of running that this metaphor describes is specifically referring to \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.

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How might we benefit from looking at our faith from this perspective?

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To endure and press on in our marathon of faith, we need to identify that which can \_\_\_\_\_ us.

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Paul likens the false teachers in Galatia to the yeast found in *leavened bread*. What makes these false teachers *leaven* to be avoided, rather than brothers with a different perspective?

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In verse 10, Paul expresses his confidence in two things:

1. He is confident that the Galatians will not ultimately accept this false view.
2. He is confident that the false teachers will be punished by God Himself for their efforts to deceive.

Why might some have been suggesting that Paul was actually *for* circumcision and salvation by keeping Moses' law? Why was this clearly a false report?

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Why do you think Paul uses such harsh language to describe the false teachers in verse 12? Is this appropriate?

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