Hebrews 12

King James Version (KJV)

12 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a <u>cloud</u> of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us <u>run with patience</u> the race that is set before us, (cloud= group) (cast off the weights, or temptations of life, to run a swift race to salvation) (run with patience= run with endurance. Impatience can cause us to fail. God's plan will unfold per His timeframe, not ours)

(In 1Thessalonians-4, ignorant preachers have turned the term cloud <which is a group> to mean that the faithful will fly away, in the false rapture doctrine. The truth is that we will be here, in person, to testify for God in the synagogue of antichrist) see Mark-13, Matthew-24

²Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Jesus was God, in the flesh. HE taught us faith and how to live a good life in God's grace)

³For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. (Remember what Jesus did for us, to keep your faith strong)

⁴Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. (They crucified Jesus)

⁵ And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: (Don't let the wicked world intimidate you and rob you of your salvation. When God corrects you, thank Him. HE just helped you get back on the right path)

⁶ For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. (Parents correct their children if they love them. The same is true of God towards us)

⁷ If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? (Parents chastise their children when they do wrong, in order to raise them to do right) ⁸But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye <u>bastards</u>, and not sons. (It's up to us. Live by God's laws, which can mean chastisement when you do wrong, or abandon God and He'll abandon you. On a spiritual basis, God is our Father. You can accept Him or not) (bastards = disowned, orphaned – better translation)

⁹ Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? (Men are nothing in comparison to God. HE created us)

¹⁰ For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. (Unlike parents, God is always fair. People try to be fair to their children but sometimes are not. People make mistakes; God doesn't) Ezekiel-18:4

¹¹Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. (The peaceable fruit is love and charity – for God and for our fellow man)

¹² Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; (Help others who need a hand. Encourage people who need it. The best way to help people is to do so spiritually, in order to help them find salvation)

¹³ And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. (Stay on the righteous path so as to not mislead others. Lead by example)

¹⁴ Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: (Get along with other people if at all possible. Stay away from those that refuse to get along with you)

¹⁵ Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; Deuteronomy-29:18-20 (Beware of infiltrators with other doctrines or religions)

¹⁶Lest there be any <u>fornicator</u>, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. (Fornicator=pornos – a male prostitute; our word pornography comes from this root word) (Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of porridge. Spiritually, this was

like he prostituted himself. That's why God said – Jacob I loved, Esau I hated)

¹⁷ For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears. (Esau repented to his father, Isaac, but not to God. Only God could have pardoned him)

¹⁸ For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, (Mt Sinai, when Israel was in the wilderness)

¹⁹ And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more: Exodus-19:11-16 (The people were frightened when they heard the awesome voice of God)

²⁰ (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart:

²¹ And so <u>terrible</u> was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:) (terrible= awesome – better translation. In old English, terrible also meant awesome)

²² But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, (Jesus opened our path to God when He rent the vail in the temple, at His crucifixion)

²³ To the general assembly and church of the <u>firstborn</u>, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made <u>perfect</u>, (firstborn= God's elect; those that were justified in the First Age) (perfect= mature)

²⁴ And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel. (Jesus became the Passover Lamb –the perfect sacrifice for all time)

²⁵ See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: (Bad enough that they didn't obey God in the flesh <as Jesus>, far worse if they don't obey God in Heaven <Yahoveh>) ²⁶ Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. (This will happen at the tribulation of Christ – the second tribulation at the 7th trump. The first tribulation comes when antichrist will deceive the world)

²⁷ And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Psalms-102 (The Word of God cannot be shaken)

²⁸ Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: (The kingdom of God cannot bee shaken or moved. God's salvation is guaranteed if we choose to accept it)

²⁹ For our God is a consuming fire. Deuteronomy-4:24 (Warming the good, consuming the evil)