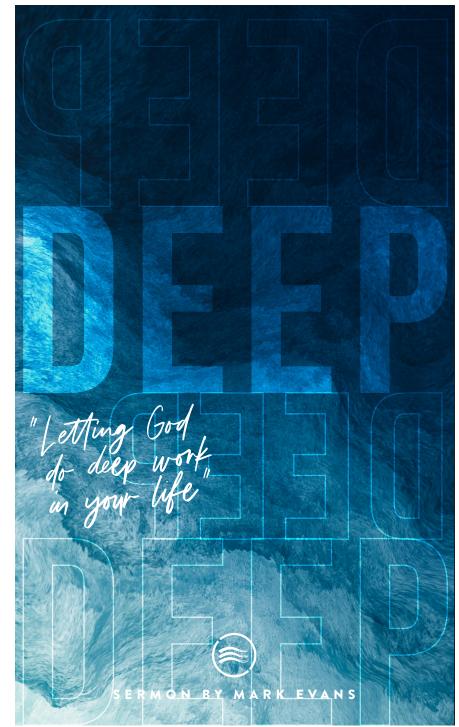


SCAN THE CODE FOR OUR LIST OF ROCK CREEK LINKS!





SERMON BY MARK EVANS

But others were tortured, refusing to turn from God in order to be set free. They placed their hope in a better life after the resurrection. ³⁶ Some were jeered at, and their backs were cut open with whips. Others were chained in prisons. ³⁷ Some died by stoning, some were sawed in half, and others were killed with the sword. Some went about wearing skins of sheep and goats, destitute and oppressed and mistreated. ³⁸ They were too good for this world, wandering over deserts and mountains, hiding in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹ All these people earned a good reputation because of their faith, yet none of them received all that God had promised. ⁴⁰ For God had something

better in mind for us, so that they would not reach perfection without us. Hebrews 11:35-40

• FAITH DOESN'T SPARE US ______.

• SOME OF GOD'S PROMISES WILL BE

• WE ARE RUNNING A ______.

Therefore, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking only at Jesus, the originator and perfecter of the 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. ³ For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself,

> so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12:1-3

"Therefore since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us..." Hebrews 12:1a 2. CUT OUT . "let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us". Hebrews 12:1b OBSTACLES: ANYTHING THAT SINS: WHAT TO DO & NOT DOING IT 3. RUN ______ RACE NOT _____ RACE. "And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us." Hebrews 12:1c 4. FOCUS ON _____, NOT ON _____ "looking only at Jesus, the originator and perfecter of the faith" Hebrews 12:2a 5. LOOK PAST & LOOK TO

1. REMEMBER ______ IS WATCHING ME.

"He was willing to die a shameful death on the cross because of the joy he knew would be his afterward. Now he is seated in the place of highest honor beside God's throne in heaven!" Hebrews 12:2b

6. THINK ABOUT WHAT ______.

"Think about all he endured when sinful people did such terrible things to him, so that you don't become weary and give up. After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin!" Hebrews 12:3-4