

*"Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the Truth? This persuasion cometh not of Him that calleth you." Galatians 5:7-8 KJV*



Our race has been won by Jesus Christ! Believers are “more than conquerors through Him that loved us.” We do not run in our own strength, but that of God, Himself. “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.” God works IN US through His Word in our thoughts, but you must know it to think it. “Study to show thyself approved unto God. Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the Day of Jesus Christ.” We only fail when we try to run under our own steam. Running the race in God’s power is obeying Truth. ALL my “righteousness [good works] are as filthy rags.” My deeds must be faith motivated to “be counted for righteousness.” In other words, I must obey God’s Word, not because I’m told to, but because I believe it and trust it; because I want to obey it. When a person trains for a sporting event they spend hours every day “working out.” They strengthen themselves by doing over and over to excess what it is that they will have to do to win. Weight lifters lift. Runners run. They only eat certain foods. They avoid that which hinders. Our high school soccer coach would command our menu for 48 hours ahead of games. He’d start with protein and end with salad, just before the game. We were only allowed a light salad and home made honey granola game day. We practiced two hours a day and ran three hours a day. We were required to run a mile each day and once a week it had to be under five minutes. The school I attended had not lost or tied a game for 8 years including college teams. Rules of preparation are the key to performance. Rule of spiritual success? “This Book of The Law (God’s Word) shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt Meditate Therein DAY AND NIGHT, that thou mayest observe to DO according to ALL THAT IS WRITTEN therein: for...then thou shalt have good success.” Paul wrote, “Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. Seeing then that we have a great High Priest, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the Throne of Grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” There is no excuse for not asking. We must avoid the excesses that hinder us. “Abstain from all appearance of evil”

Who doth hinder my running well?  
Our Lord is He who calms the swell;  
To run I must lay self aside,  
And by my Lord for aye abide. ~CGP

Jesus said, “For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?” God has preserved His Truth “to every generation,” even yours. You can know what to do if you really want to know. God knows even that choice. Are YOU what is hindering you?

*"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." Hebrews 12:1 KJV*