



Everyone seems to be excited about leaving 2020 behind and entering into a new year. We tend to think of January 1 as a “magical” reset. However, circumstances in our society may not change so it’s important that we are prepared.

But there’s another issue that some do not understand — how we finish a season may affect the success of the next season.

To be prepared for the conquest and inheriting the Promised Land, God commanded all the Jewish males to be circumcised before they attacked Jericho.

- Joshua 5:1-9 *...This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.* Romans 2:29 *...circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit...*

Here are four principles to think about as we approach 2021

Hebrews 12:1-2 *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses (Hebrews 11), let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking 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 has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

1. *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...*
 - A. Model your life after (learn from) those who have been and who are successful, godly role models.

- B. WHO are the Biblical and contemporary heroes who inspire me?

2. *...let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us...*
 - A. Choose to lay aside things that encumber, hinder you from living for Christ.
 - B. WHAT are they? Identify them and create a plan to exchange those things/activities with Biblical activities.
3. *...and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us...*
 - A. Determine in your heart that you won’t give up. Ever!
 - B. WHY do I seem to give up?
4. *...looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...*
 - A. Let God’s Spirit be your guide in every area of life. Develop a sensitivity to His voice.
 - B. WHERE will I meet with God? Dedicate your “prayer closet” location and time to God.