



IMPEDIMENTS IN THE RACE

*“⁷You were running the race so well. Who has held you back from following the truth?”
Galatians 5:7 nlt*

Introduction:

“¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,” Hebrews 12:1 nlt

1. _____.

“¹²God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. ¹³And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, God is tempting me. God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. ¹⁴Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. ¹⁵These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.” James 1:12-15 nlt

“⁷Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.” James 4:7

2. _____.

“⁹The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?” Jeremiah 17:9 nlt

*“⁸That’s why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God.”
Romans 8:8 nlt*

“²²Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.” 2 Timothy 2:22 niv

*“³²Better to be patient than powerful; better to have self-control than to conquer a city.”
Proverbs 16:32 nlt*

3. _____.

“¹⁵Then he said, Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own.” Luke 12:15 nlt

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4. _____.

“¹³No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.”
Philippians 3:13-14 nlt

“¹⁸Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old.” *Isaiah 43:18*

5. _____.

“²²The seed that fell among the thorns represents those who hear God’s word, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life and the lure of wealth, so no fruit is produced.” *Matthew 13:22 nlt*

“⁷Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.” *1 Peter 5:7 nlt*

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“⁷Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.” *Philippians 4:7 ntv*

Conclusion:

“¹... lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let’s run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising its shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” *Hebrews 12:1-2 web*