Athletes of Christ



INTRODUCTION

An athlete must be prepared in every way, healthy mind, healthy body, especially a baseball player since baseball is a sport that needs so much focus, so much field

study, it is very strategic when it comes to being used on the field, so so much it is necessary to be prepared and well disposed to have a good development in the sports discipline and obtain the success that we want.

DEVELOPING

D. The apostle Paul used the figure of the athlete, to describe what the Christian needs to achieve the crown of justice.

E. Let's read:

1. (1Cor.9: 24-27) "Do you not know that those who run in the stadium, all in truth run, but only one takes the prize? Run in such a way that you get it. Everyone who fights, He abstains from everything; they, in truth, to receive a corruptible crown, but we, an incorruptible one. So, in this way I run, not like luck; in this way I fight, not like the one who hits the air, 27But I strike my

body and put it in bondage, lest having been a herald for others, I myself come to be eliminated. "

- 2. (2Tim.2: 5) "And also the one who fights as an athlete, is not crowned if he does not fight Legitimately"
- F. Let's analyze what an athlete and a Christian need.
- I. The Discipline
- A. (1Cor.9: 24) "Run in such a way that you will get it"
- B. An athlete strives for the award:
- 1. You train.
- 2. Refrain from things that are not healthy for your body.
- 3. Submit to discipline.
- 4. You deprive yourself of certain things.
- 5. He does not lose nights and does not abuse his body.

- C. On the contrary, it conditions and cares for the race, because it has its eyes on the prize.
- D. The Christian must be disciplined in order to obtain the award.
- II. Follow the Master's example
 A. (Hebrews.12: 1,2) "Therefore, we also, having around our great cloud of witnesses, let us strip ourselves of all weight and of the sin that besieges us, and let us run with patience the race that we have ahead, set our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of the faith, who for the joy set before him suffered the cross, despising the shame, and sat at the right hand of the throne of God "
- B. We need to set our eyes on Jesus (The Master), but also the text says that we have to get rid of what can hinder us and deprive ourselves of the prize.

- 1. Be Imitators of Christ.
- (1 Peter.2: 21) "For this you were called; for Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow in his steps"
- C. Therefore we must have or use the same strategy and discipline as the athlete.
- III. Nutritious Food
- A. An Athlete needs a nutritious and balanced diet.
- B. We need to drink "the milk" (1 Peter.2:2)
- C. To grow and be empowered for the race to eternal life.
- D. Solid and healthy food is needed to finish the race.
- E. For this the apostle Peter said (2 Peter 3:18) "Rather, grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory now and to the day of eternity. Amen."

- IV. Eyes on the Goal
- A. (1Cor.9: 26) "I run not like adventure"
- B. You have to run with a defined purpose, a goal.
- 1. Christ is our goal, he will give the crown. (Rev. 2:10)
- C. Let's run with our eyes in the sky (Col.3: 14)
- D. The earthly athlete strives for a corruptible crown. How much more should we strive? That we will win a corruptible crown of eternal value in heaven.
- E. Not like someone who strikes the air (1Cor.9: 26)
- F. It has to be hitting the target, our opponent is strong, but We can win if we use the weapons that the Lord Jesus has given us.
- G. Although Paul was an apostle and had miraculous gifts, he was aware that the

flesh is treacherous and could fall, so he said (1Cor.9: 27)

- V. Think about the award
- A. (Eph.1: 18) "enlightening the eyes of your understanding, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, and what are the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints"
- B. Paul wanted them to understand the purpose and goal to be achieved.

Conclusion:

- A. We need to have discipline.
- B. Just as the athlete submits to the rules of the game, we must submit to the rules of Christ.
- 1. The Athlete does not win any prize unless he has respected and kept all the rules of the sport.

2. In a nutshell this is legitimately fighting (2Tim.2: 5)

C. We must strive to say as Paul said (2Tim.4: 7-8) "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Otherwise, the crown of justice is kept for me, which the Lord will give a righteous judge in that day, and not only to me, but also to all who love his coming."

May the Holy Spirit vivify in the young athlete the works of faith.

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