

September 18, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

Dt. 13:4 *It is the LORD your God you must follow, and Him you must revere. Keep His commands and obey Him; serve Him and hold fast to Him.* (NIV) Certainly you have heard the term: being led astray. The tragic point of that term is that we can be led to places that we should not go. In fact, we are very susceptible to that. We are a very curious people. It is this that led to the beginning of sin. We, like Adam and Eve, want to know why. Why shouldn't I eat of that tree? The fruit looks good. We've been told that it will make us more like God, knowing the difference between good and evil. And so it began, the quest for self and sin emerged. It is here that the LORD is reminding His people to not let any deceiver be successful in leading them in the wrong direction. Instead, their focus should be on the LORD and following His Word. I remember watching an episode of 'Running Wild' with Bear Grylls. His guest on this particular episode was Alex Honnold. Alex is a famous rock climber and was featured in a documentary called "Free Solo." Alex climbed El Capitan in Yosemite National Park without ropes. It was just him and the wall of rock. In sharing with Bear about his infamous climb, he simply stated that he felt totally at ease because he knew the path up and what to look for along the way.

In the same way, we have a path that is laid out for us. All we must do is follow that path. The writer of Hebrews states it like this: **Heb. 12:1-3** *Therefore, 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. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him Who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.* (NIV) Hold on tightly to Him. Don't let go, no matter the temptations or the pressure, we must keep our eyes on the only One that can help us. Let's follow Him completely.

Dear LORD, help us to keep our eyes fixed on You. You are the way and the truth and the life. We must not veer off the course that you have laid out for us. Please help us LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen