

great a cloud of witnesses. Therefore let us lay aside every sin and the weight which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience 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 is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood striving against sin." This book I've been reading by Prof. Kauffmann, has strong recommendations by the heads of the philosophy departments of most of our great universities telling what a wonderful thinker he is and ~~how~~ what clear understanding he has, and I find much in the book that is very helpful. He has a marvellous mind and a marvellous clarity of expression but when it comes to the NT he certainly completely misinterprets it. And he says that the teaching of Paul and of Luther is that there is no use trying to resist sin. You can't anyway. The whole purpose of the law is to show you that you can't do it, so you just go ahead and do what you feel like, and know that you can be saved anyway because you cannot possibly overcome sin. How utterly contrary to what Paul says: Ye have not yet resisted unto blood striving against sin. Paul and Luther and every great Christian teacher has realized that we have a duty to do everything we can to forward our sanctification. Oh it's nice to be persuaded by others of the importance of following the standards God sets up in the Bible. It's nice to enjoy the association of those who have good moral ~~standza~~ standards. It is far better than association with people of other standards, far more pleasant in every way. But God wants us to have conviction, such conviction that we will be ready to resist unto blood striving against sin and to ~~remember~~ remember the exhortation as Paul goes on: My son despise not the chastening of the Lord neither be weary of him rebuked of him, for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. But ~~o~~ how often we find that the people who have done a good work in Christian life and Christian association as far as others can see, and then God disciplines them, He scourges them, He chastens them, He brings difficulty into their lives and many say, Oh what's the use? What the use we just can't do it. They turn aside. We want to push on from conviction ~~zh~~ ~~as~~ as in order that we may become what He wants to become. And certainly there is nothing more important in our life. Our service, important as it is is not as important as fitting us