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Hebrews 12:12 (GAH)

Since we are also surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, we fling aside every sin that would entangle us and run with steady endurance the race marked out for us, fixing our focus on the originator and perfecter of faith—Jesus. He, for the sake of the joy that would be his, endured a cross, despising its shame, and he sat on the right side of God's throne.

Grk "having such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us." <3144> μάρτυς *martus*

Meaning: *a witness*

Origin: a prim. word

Usage: witness (12), witnesses (23)

. Focus on the originator and consummator of the faith—Jesus.

Philippians 2:1-11 (GAH)

I appeal to you in Christ: if there is anything that will stimulate you, any persuasion of love, any warmth or affection, or compassion, by all of your participation in the Spirit - make my joy full by having one understanding, united in love, in heart and opinion. Never act out of envy or self-promotion! In humility give preference to others before yourself. Heed others' interests before your own. Have that mindset in yourselves as in Christ Jesus: though existing originally in the nature of God, he did not consider clinging to oneness with God a goal, but he poured himself out by taking the nature of a slave and sharing in humanity, in every aspect as a man. And he humbled himself to the extent of death - even death on a cross. At this God exalted him on high, and endowed him with that name above all names; so that at the name of "Jesus" every knee will bow, in the heaven, on earth, and beneath - and every tongue proclaim: "Jesus Christ is Lord!", to the glory of God the Father.

- In all - the cross event is the core of the Christian message and theology
- The Christ revelation of God has its center in the cross of Christ - here is our gospel
- The cross is the believer's ethic - this is the value to judge all others
 - The center of all New Covenant teaching is in Christ - he has redetermine/defined faith
 - Around this truth we have cluttered our message and witness with man emphasis doctrines
 - The simplicity of this is its *Profundities'*
 - Too simple for a Pharisee
 - Too naive for a Sadducee
 - Not devout enough for an Essene
 - Not politically powerful enough for a Zealot