



Finishing

though it was agonising, as we know from his anguish in the Garden of Gethsemane late on Maundy Thursday. But he saw it through.

Inspiration?

Seeing people achieve despite hardship can be a real inspiration. But Jesus's death was more than just an inspiration. It actually

changed the future of the world. This is what St Paul said as he could see his own

death approaching:

'The time has come for me to leave this life here. I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have served the Lord faithfully. Now, a prize is waiting for me—the crown that will show I am right with God.

The Lord, the judge who

judges rightly, will

give it to me on that

Day. Yes, he will give it to me

and to everyone else who is eagerly looking forward to his

coming. (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

You can be sure Paul's prize wasn't because of his own perfect life—it was because of Jesus's. But did you notice at the end: we can all share his confidence! Do you?

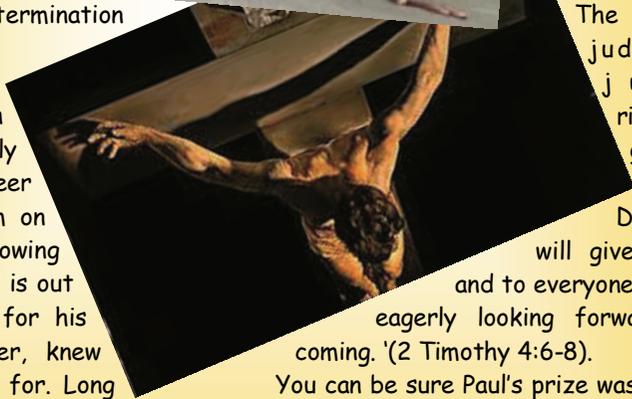
Are you a good finisher? Do you start out with lots of energy and good intentions, but then when things get tough, decide to shelve, modify or abandon the project?

Running the race

The Kenyan in this picture was winning a marathon, but fell 50m from the finish. She crawled to the end on her hands and knees, ignoring the offered wheelchair. She finished third, but won the honours for determination and grit!

Holy Week

At the end of March we celebrate Holy Week. The crowds cheer Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, little knowing that before the week is out they will be baying for his blood. Jesus, however, knew what he was heading for. Long before then he had made it clear that he knew his purpose was to give his life. The 'fall', when it came, was no surprise to him,



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