

How to Endure with Faith in Jesus to the End!

(Avoiding Apostasy)

Text: Hebrews 10:32-39

Main Idea: Apostasy is avoided by remembering past confidences in God, & fixing hope in the future promises of God!

- Neg. Exhort: "Don't throw away your confidence!" (v. 35a)
- Pos. Exhort: "For you have need of endurance!" (v. 36a)

1. Look Back: By remembering your past _____ in Christ! (v. 32-34a)

- Remember how you were _____ to Jesus (conversion). (32)
- Remember how you endured a great _____ of suffering for Christ! (32b-33a)
- Remember your courageous acts of Christ-like _____ toward your brothers and sisters who were in prison. (33b-34a)

2. Look Forward: By fixing your hope in the future _____ of God! (v. 34b-39)

- Fix your hope on your _____ and _____ possession in heaven rather than your material possessions. (34b, Matt 6:19-21)
- Fix your hope on your great _____. (35b, 2 Cor 5:10, Rom 8:18)
- Fix your hope on the promise that Jesus is _____ again to make the world right rewarding those who endure and executing justice on those who shrink back! (37, Hab 2:3-4)
- Fix your hope by living by _____ & not sight! (38)
- Fix your hope on your _____ being preserved! (39)

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Application/Study Questions:

1. The key to understanding this passage is to grasp the two exhortations in v. 35-36. What are those exhortations? Why are they significant in light of the previous paragraph v. 26-31?
2. Generally speaking, what two approaches does the author give his listeners to equip them to have an enduring faith in the midst of hard times? (Point # 1 & # 2)
3. In v. 32 the author recalls how the listeners had endured a hard struggle facing insult, reproach, affliction & even the plundering of their property (most likely by Rome). Notice this was done “publicly” & it was accepted by these Christians “joyfully.” Would you be willing to be publicly ridiculed, insulted & possibly physically injured for the cause of Christ? List 3 ways that we may be tempted to avoid persecution?
4. Did you notice that the persecution was most likely instigated due to the association with imprisoned Christians (see v. 34)? Do you love your brothers and sisters in Christ enough to put your own life and well being on the line?
5. How does the author encourage his listeners to be established in faith despite their financial misfortune? What 2 words does he use to describe the contrast in our future possessions in heaven (v. 34b)? Compare this to Matthew 5:19-21.
6. What does the author mean when he says, “when you have done the will of God” in v. 36? Think through the context of the book of Hebrews. Go back and review what the author warns against: 2:1-4, 3:12-15, 6:3-6, 10:26-31. Now read John 6:28 in light of “doing the will of God.” Have **you** “done the will of God?”
7. What is the “great reward” that awaits us & “what is promised?” (see 1 Thess 1:10, 2 Cor 5:10, Rom 8:18)
8. What does it mean to “live by faith?” How do the unseen promises of God fit into this “living” (especially Hab 2:3-4 & Heb 11:13)?
9. What does the writer say will happen to those who “shrink back,” losing their confidence in Christ ultimately not enduring to the end (v. 38b & v. 39)? Were these true believers? (See Mk 4:17, John 6:37-40) What is promised for those who have faith?

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