

Cost us**How we value them**

A lot

A lot

Nothing

A lot

Nothing

Not much, but we should!

➤ How much do we value the gift of salvation?

1

Holding Fast
Hebrews 10:19-39
bib.ly/He10.NIV



2

The Letter to the Hebrews

Written to Jewish Christians

Who seemingly got discouraged with Christianity and were tempted to return to Judaism

Perhaps the decline of Christianity in the US today is similar

3

Hebrews 10:19-21

¹⁹ **Therefore,** brothers and sisters,
 since we have confidence **to enter the Most Holy Place** by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new
 and living way opened for us through the curtain,
 that is, his body,
²¹ and since we have **a great priest** over the house of
 God...

**Because of Jesus, we have confident access
 to the awesome presence of Almighty God!**

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Therefore **Hebrews 10:22-25** **Active commands**

²² **let us draw near to God** with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that **faith** brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ **Let us hold unswervingly** to the **hope** we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And **let us consider** how we may spur one another on toward **love** and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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Hebrews 10:22-25

²² **let us draw near to God** with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that **faith** brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

²³ Let us hold unswervingly ...

²⁴ And let us consider ...

**We can come to God for forgiveness and love
So be sure to come!!**

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Hebrews 10:22-25

²² let us draw near to God ...

²³ **Let us hold unswervingly** to the **hope** we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

²⁴ And let us consider ...

Keep a faithful, unwavering commitment to the Good News in Jesus Christ

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Hebrews 10:22-25

²² let us draw near to God ...

²³ Let us hold unswervingly ...

²⁴ And **let us consider** how we may **spur one another** on toward **love** and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see **the Day** approaching.

Be determined to help others and to be helped on this journey of faith

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Hebrews 10:26-31

For...

²⁶ If we **deliberately keep on sinning** after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, ²⁷ but **only a fearful expectation** of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

Defiantly rejecting God brings judgment

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²⁸ Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.

²⁹ **How much more severely** do you think someone deserves to be punished who **has trampled the Son of God underfoot**, who has **treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant** that sanctified them, and who has **insulted the Spirit of grace** ³⁰ For we

know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people."

³¹ It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

**Offending God
while rejecting grace leads to horror**

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Hebrews 10:32-34

But...

³² Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering. ³³ Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. ³⁴ You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions.

He is confident in their past and present faith

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Hebrews 10:35-39

³⁵ So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.

³⁶ You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. ³⁷ For,

“In just a little while,
he who is coming will come and will not delay.”

³⁸ And, “But my righteous one will live by faith.
And I take no pleasure
in the one who shrinks back.”

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³⁹ But we do not belong
to those who shrink back and are destroyed,
but to those who have faith and are saved.

He gives a serious call to persevere
with confidence that they will
The alternative is too awful to consider

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Big Idea

The wonderful gift of eternal life in Christ
demands that we have unwavering faith
in Christ and His ways

14

Two Roads, and 3 ways to live

Confidently entering the joyful presence of God

➤ The joy of heaven

Fearful expectation of judgment and raging fire

➤ The fear of hell

15

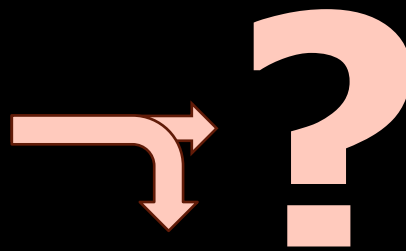
Two Roads, and 3 ways to live

Determined pursuit of God
in Christ



Joy of heaven

Wavering
Neither for nor against
Half hearted
Overconfident



Defiant, deliberate rejection
of God or Jesus



Fear of Hell

16

Jesus said: **“Make every effort to enter through the narrow door,** because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.” *Luke 13:24*

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.” *Ephesians 2:8-9*

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The writer of Hebrews...

- expressed confidence in the readers' genuine faith in the free gift of life in Christ
- left no doubt about how awful it will be for anyone who misses the free gift of life in Christ
- **So he warned them to keep following Jesus closely**

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Can you lose your salvation?

- Not all Christians agree
- My conviction: "And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified." Romans 8:30

What is certain:

- An active faith in Christ is a saving faith
- An 'assurance' of salvation that leads us to take the faith lightly is not a godly assurance
- **Every Christian is called upon to choose to continue in faith in Christ**

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Therefore, my brothers and sisters, **make every effort to confirm your calling and election.**

2 Peter 1:10

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Big Idea

The wonderful gift of eternal life in Christ demands that we have unwavering faith in Christ and His ways

Those who receive this gift by faith must not take it lightly

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Application

Hold tightly to our faith

- Hold unswervingly to Christ and the Gospel
- When are we at risk of drifting away?
 - When going through a transition
 - In a community that doesn't value Christ
 - When tired, discouraged, disappointed, ...
- Watch for people who are at risk and help them
- When you're at risk, get closer to other Christians!

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Application

Hold tightly to our faith

Together

- Christian perseverance is a community endeavor
- Command: **Peer-to-peer**, not pastor to people
- We must each take (and make) opportunities to strengthen each other's faith in Christ
- **At least twice a week, intentionally be in Christian Fellowship → for you and for them**

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Christian Fellowship

Christian fellowship is more than Christians...

- in the same room together
- enjoying each others' company
- encouraging each other
- worshiping God together

Christian fellowship also means...

- **Christians challenging and encouraging each other to trust and follow Jesus more**
- **Especially when it is challenging**

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2024 at Crossway



25

Being a Disciple of Jesus = student, learner, follower

Born again from God

Becoming like Jesus

Doing the works of Jesus

by the Spirit of God

Together with God's people

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Big Idea

The wonderful gift of eternal life in Christ
demands that we have unwavering faith
in Christ and His ways

TOGETHER

27

We proclaim to you what we have seen and
heard, so that...

you also may have **fellowship with us.**

And our **fellowship is with the Father and with
his Son, Jesus Christ.**

We write this to make **our joy complete.**

1 John 1:3-4

**Let's pursue and remain
in the joy of Christ together**

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