

ENDURANCE

Helping Us Endure

Acts 27:9-32

Warning Passages in Hebrews

Hebrews 2:1 ESV [1] Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.

Hebrews 3:12-13 ESV [12] Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. [13] But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Hebrews 6:4-6 ESV [4] For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, [5] and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, [6] and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

Hebrews 10:26-27 ESV [26] For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, [27] but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

Hebrews 12:25 ESV [25] See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven.

The Perseverance of the Saints

Grudem: The perseverance of the saints means that all those who are truly born again will be kept by God's power and will persevere as Christians until the end of their lives, and that only those who persevere until the end have been truly born again.

Warnings are God's means of helping us endure

- Remember: warning passages are addressed to Christians, the threat is eternal destruction
- Analogy – sharing the gospel
 - Ephesians 1:3-6 ESV
 - Romans 10:14 ESV

The promise of persevering does not come to pass apart from the warning to endure, but through the warning to endure.

How are we to respond to warnings?

1. Heed the warnings
 - i. **Schreiner:** We must pay heed to the warnings in order to be saved on the day of the Lord. The last point needs further elaboration. How do we as believers receive the warning passages? In our journey in the Christian life we receive them just for what they say. ... The warnings remind us that falling away from the living God has eternal consequences. ... It is precisely by taking the warnings seriously that we avoid eternal destruction.
2. Believe the promises
 - i. that he who began a good work in us will complete it to the day of Christ (Philippians 1:6),
 - ii. that God will equip us with everything good, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight (Hebrews 13:21),
 - iii. that he is able to keep us from falling and to present us without blemish before the throne of his glory with rejoicing (Jude 24),
3. Take action

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. [1] lay aside every weight, ii. [1] lay aside sin iii. [1] run with endurance iv. [3] Consider him v. [12] lift drooping hands and strengthen weak knees, vi. [13] make straight paths vii. [14] Strive for peace with everyone, 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> viii. [14] Strive for holiness ix. [15] See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; x. [25] See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. xi. [28] let us be grateful xii. [28] let us offer to God acceptable worship
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