

OUTLINE LESSON SIX  
FAITH IN CHRIST PRESERVES YOUR SOUL  
HEBREWS 10:19-39

- I. Introduction/review
- II. Structure of passage
  - A. v. 19-25 three exhortation- faith provides proximity to God and one another
  - B. v. 26-31 a stern warning- faith protects from dangerous desertion
  - C. v. 32-35 former days> faith provides persistent solidarity through suffering
  - D. v. 36-39 encouragement to do the will of God> faith provides perseverance to obtain the promise
- III. v. 19-25 faith in Christ provides continuous proximity to Himself and one another
  - A. Therefore... let us x3 with two 'since' clauses to stand on
  - B. v. 19-21 two rocks of confidence
    - 1. First rock
      - a. Confidence= authorization by God to enter the holy place by the blood
      - b. A new (in time and quality) and living (no more sacrifices) way through the veil where Jesus entered
    - 2. Second rock
      - a. A great high priest
      - b. Over the house of God- believers!
  - C. v. 22-25 three exhortations= faithful response to the teaching= communal/continuous> one sacrifice for sin, but continuous need to approach
    - 1. v. 22 let us draw near w/ a sincere heart to serve the living God
      - a. Sincere= not double minded, but true and whole
      - b. In fullness of FAITH in Christ who provides proximity
      - c. Hearts cleansed by His blood; bodies washed in baptism
    - 2. v. 23 let us hold fast the confession of HOPE
      - a. Confession=agreement w/ God> hope is in Christ only
      - b. No wavering b/c HE is faithful
    - 3. v. 24-25 let us consider how to simulate one another to LOVE
      - a. NOT forsaking, BUT encouraging- must be present/engaged

- i. Forsaking= deserting, abandoning the community> not valuing what Christ has provided for flourishing
      - b. Anticipating the day of Christ's return- desire to be found faithful
    - D. Faith brings closeness> expands the treasure/anchor of hope> grows into love
- IV. v. 26-31 faith protects from dangerous desertion= an unfaithful response to teaching
  - A. v. 26-27 Basic principle= no sacrifice for willful sin
    - 1. Not unintentional or ignorant> after precise, correct knowledge received
    - 2. Desertion/rejection of Christ and community= standing before God alone
    - 3. Only judgment can be expected
  - B. v. 28-29 contrast between severity of consequences for rejection of old vs new
    - 1. v. 28 desertion of God for other gods> death to purge evil from Israel
    - 2. v. 29 horrifying picture of rejection of Christ
  - C. v. 30-31 Israel understood God's vengeance, judgment-don't mock God, have faith
- V. v. 32-34 reassurance through remembrance- faith provided persistent solidarity through suffering
  - A. Persecution began soon= a window into their situation
- VI. v. 35-39 faith in the promises will provide endurance and preserve from shrinking back
  - A. v.35-36 continue in confident faith to obtain the reward- promise is sure but they must endure by faith
  - B. v. 37 Habakkuk 2: 3 promise grounded in Scripture> Christ's return (9:28, 10:25)
  - C. v. 38-39 faith brings life and preserves by preventing shrinking back
- VII. Implications for us today
  - A. How will WE respond to the profound truths which we have learned from our author which were summarized in vs. 19-21?

## THINKING ABOUT HEBREWS 10:19-39

1. What does it mean that faith 'preserves' the soul? How have we learned it does this? Why is this important to you?
2. What are the two 'since' clauses to which the author urges his hearers to respond in faith in v. 19-21? How do they encourage you?
3. What are the three faithful responses to those truths which the author encourages in v. 22-25? Why was it important for the suffering Hebrew Christians to have this kind of instruction? Why is faith in Christ necessary for proximity and intimacy with God?
4. This passage is filled with vocabulary from the rest of the letter. Look up the following words from other passages and be reminded of the treasures you have gathered. Write a short sentence about each and how having these treasures builds your faith. Do you notice others?
  - a. Confidence (4:16, 10:19, 10:25)
  - b. Holy place (9:2, 12, 24-25; 10:19)
  - c. Blood (9:6-14, 18-28; 10:4, 19, 29)
  - d. High priest (2:17; 4:14-16; 6:19-20; 7:26-28; 9:11-14, 24-26)
  - e. Heart (3:12; 4:12; 10:16, 22)
  - f. Hope (3:6; 6:10-12, 17-20; 7:18-19; 10:23)
5. Why do you think solidarity in suffering is evidence of faith? How is this related to the exhortation in v. 24-25 to consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds? Do you think solidarity is necessary in the body of Christ today? How does faith in Christ promote this between sisters? How can you pursue this?
6. How do the three exhortations given by the author in v. 22-25 result in the endurance needed in v. 35-36? What else does the author point to in order to encourage perseverance in these suffering saints? How does this look for you on a day-to-day basis?

