

Hebrews 10.19-39

A Line of No Return!

ADVENT > Focus on JESUS > Way KNOW Him because MADE Self KNOWN

REVELATION – GOD SPEAKS > 1 of TITLES of Jesus ‘The WORD’

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1.1

Jesus to Philip “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father” John 14.9

Another CLEAR Revelation of God > In our HANDS > Scripture

JESUS – Fully God / fully man / BIBLE – Word of God / words of man

JESUS is KEY to Open Meaning of Bible / Bible KEY to Know JESUS

Since Sept – Seeking to HEAR God / SEE Jesus > thru NT book Hebrews

10 ½ Chapters UNPACKED 3 Words – “Jesus is BETTER”

TODAY begin APPLICATION – the “SO WHAT!?” > v. 19 Therefore...

If “Jesus is BETTER” - “SO WHAT!?” What difference does that make??

From v. 19 to END of Hebrews > FOCUS on HOW live Xtian FAITH

Section begins word “Therefore” --- WHAT is it THERE FOR?

IF that BE TRUE SO-WHAT --- WHAT Must we NOW DO?

### 1. Invitation – *Let Us* - 3 X’s

#### a. Let us draw near v. 22

OLD Covenant emph SEPARATION/ NEW Cov emph INVITATION

TEMPLE > High Priest just Once a Year into Most HOLY Place

Detailed Preparation – Washing – Practicing – Dressing – Sacrificing

Nervous Colleagues TIED Rope around Leg > Pointed him to Entrance

Vs. 19,20 “Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh”

No Ordinary Hebrew would DARE pass Near ENTRANCE of Holy Place

@ DEATH of Jesus > VEIL in Temple TORE from TOP to Bottom

GOD Himself did the Tearing > because His SON Torn for Us on CROSS

Jesus is NEW Thing > HE is Reason have NEW Covenant / Testament

PRIEST who Lives Forever / gave SACRIFICE that ATONES Forever

“It is only when I am near to God in Christ that I know my sins are forgiven. I feel his love, I know I am his child and I enjoy the priceless blessing of peace with God and peace within and peace with others...I am given a joy that the world can neither give nor take away”  
D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Believers in JESUS have OPEN DOOR into Very PRESENCE of GOD

High Priest of OLD Covenant: HASTY, Dreadful Visit Most Holy Place

Jesus is our Forever PRIEST > We LINGER in Delight of God’s Presence

vs. 21,22 since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

High Priest PREPARED Week before Entering Most Holy Place  
Many Worshippers RUSH in LATE > Little Thought of Preparation  
SABBATH should Start at SUNDOWN the Night Before  
Prepare KIDS, WEAR?, EAT?, Mind, Heart, Body > to MEET God

b. Let us hold fast

v. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Biblical HOPE is in Humanly IMPOSSIBLE > WORK of God ALONE  
Young Teenage VIRGIN Girl > BABY > Her Son is SON of GOD  
Healed LEPERS, BLIND, MUTE, FED 1000’s, WALKED on WATER  
Crowds watched Him CRUCIFIED > Over 500 SAW Him ALIVE Again  
DOZENS watched Him ASCEND into HEAVEN  
Every EYE will SEE Him Return in POWER & Time-Stopping GLORY

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

CONFESSION > PUBLIC, DOCTRINAL, BOLD, COMPASSIONATE

c. Let us consider one another

v. 24,25 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Like WE worry: CANCELLED for Christ – Tempted: Ashamed of Gospel

Readers of LETTER Tempted to Return to SAFETY of Synagogue

Christian Faith NOT INDIVIDUAL SPORT / We’re BROTHERS Keeper

Jesus taught us PRAY “OUR Father in Heaven” / Sink or Swim Together

**CONSIDER** – WHO are we THINKING About? – OFTEN Ourselves

How can we ENCOURAGE Others? – Point them to JESUS?

Not INVITATION be JUDGMENTAL BUSYBODIES – Invasive Species

**STIR UP** – Incite, Provoke, Stimulate > Way we LIVE and TALK

**ENCOURAGE** – Come Along Side – Bear Burdens – Know Eachother

ACTIVE Participation in One Another's LIVES – Visit, Call, Pray!

**FAITH** brings us in Relation to WORSHIP God > Let us draw near

**HOPE** Anchors is Secure in God's Blessing > Let us Confess

**LOVE** Stirs us Up in Kindness > Let us Encourage One Another

## 2. Exhortation – *Don't Ever*

4<sup>th</sup> of 5 Exhortations in Hebrews > WARNING Against Falling Away

SIGNS on DANGEROUS Trail – Closer to CLIFF, Stronger Warning

Ch 2 – You are DRIFTING / Ch 3 – DOUBTING / Ch 5 DULL to Word

Ch 10 > DESPISING the Lord who GAVE His LIFE for YOU!

v. 26 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

EVIDENCE of Despising > WILLFUL Sin "go on sinning" Habitual

Old Covenant > NO Sacrifice for INTENTIONAL, Deliberate SIN

HIGH HANDED Sin had No Path for MERCY

Ps 51 – David PLANNED Adultery/Murder – Could only Cry 'Mercy'

p. 373 Richard Philips PASTORAL SITUATION

SADLY Not Everyone is like that WOMAN – Some Never RETURN

Once Saved Always Saved?? Absolutely!! Q?: WERE YOU SAVED!?

NOT Talking about Believers who STRUGGLE with SIN > All DO

We ALL Sin – Sometimes DO Terrible Sins – None are INNOCENT  
ONLY way BIG or Small Sin can Be REMOVED > by Blood of Christ

MERCY > God does NOT give us what we DESERVE

GRACE > God DOES give us what we DO NOT Deserve

HIDING Sin instead of CONFESSION / RUNNING Away Not Repenting

I cannot SEE your SINCERITY > Urge You STAY Close to God

WAS More Xtian Influence in Society > Back in OLD DAYS

Reason STORES Closed on Sunday > Not INTERFERE w/ Church

SICKNESS of our Society > SUNDAY is FUN DAY

PARENTS > NOT Disappoint Kids PLAY Soccer, Baseball, Sundays

Xtian Parents chose Soccer, Baseball instead of Sunday School, Worship

KIDS playing in NBA? MLB? World Cup? / Not walking w/ Jesus Either

Sound EXTREME? Maybe Need more Extreme! > Hell IS Extreme!

Jesus went to EXTREME of Giving His LIFE upon CROSS of US!

JESUS will be EITHER Your FOUNDATION or STONE of Stumbling

JESUS: “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.” Luke 10.41,42

### 3. Affirmation – *Get Back*

PASTOR Wrote Letter NOT EXPECT them Drift, Doubt, Deny X

Expects SPEND Eternity with them PRAISING Jesus our High Priest

v. 32 former days...after YOU were enlightened, YOU endured struggle

v. 34 YOU had compassion on those in prison

YOU joyfully accepted the plundering of your property

YOU knew you had a Better Possession an ABIDING One

v. 36 YOU have need of ENDURANCE

v. 39 WE are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed

1980's NORTHWEST Uganda 3 years after IDI AMIN fled Country

AMIN was General in Ugandan Army, led Military OVERTHROW

8 yrs Prez – Madman, Unleashed Reign of MURDER 300,000+ Xtians!

Lived in Hometown of AMIN – ARUA – 4 years > Destroyed Revenge

Kay Adroa – Beautiful Young Lady caught EYE of DICTATOR Amin

Kay's Father PASTOR that we Worked with in Ministry

Told me of Day Amin came asked for KAY to be his 4<sup>th</sup> Wife (Muslim)

Then Ugandan Army Truck arrived PASTOR Adroa's – Kay's BODY

Warned not to OPEN Coffin > Secretly Did > Kay CUT to Pieces

Month or So after CRYING w/ Brother ADROA over Terrible Story

Went on Home Assignment > Driving Car LA Freeways, listen Preacher

Confident Words *"You are Not Going to Suffer, No Tribulation for US!"*

No Message MORE Popular in USA > Wanna be 1<sup>st</sup> in BUFFET Line

No Message More UNFAITHFUL to Scripture

ONLY Followers of JESUS are People who Picked up THEIR CROSS

Jesus: "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you."

John 15.18-20

# 1 Question USA Xtians ask about our Work Abroad – "Is it SAFE?"

# 1 Q SHOULD Be – "Do you TRUST Jesus?"

If you DO – He's Got Your Back – ETERNAL Life starts NOW

D Livingstone "I am immortal until will of God for me Accomplished"

What did CHRISTIAN Life look like for these Hebrew Jesus followers?

v. 32 you endured a hard struggle with sufferings

v. 33 being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated.

v. 34 compassion on those in prison 1<sup>st</sup> C NOT FED, SHUNNED, Shame

v. 34 joyfully accepted the plundering of your property

Only THREE things Can Happen to a Christian

1. BLESSED – Many, More than can Count, Thank & Praise God
2. DIE – Go HOME – Unimaginable, Wonder, Joy > Everlasting
3. SUFFER – Most IDENTIFY w/ Jesus > Fellowship of Sufferings

Vs. 35,36 Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.

CONFIDENCE grows by COMMITMENT

SPURGEON “best way to help yourself is to help someone else”

Get EYES OFF our Situation > GREATER Needs of Others

Vs. 37-39 For, “Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay; but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him.” But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

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