

We Are Confident

Experts

- “The public would have greater respect for the judgment of the experts if the experts would agree”
 - Lack of confidence causes confusion
 - Confusion stifles improvement

Hebrews 6:4-6, 9

- Hebrew brothers were falling away from clear demands of Scripture.
- In spite of their dangerous tendencies, and the negative tones of this epistle, the writer expected better things of them.
- WHY? What made him so confident?

**I. He Expected His Exhortation
To Affect Them, 6:1-3, 11**

Hb.6:1-3

- Scolded them for not growing as they should, challenged them to try harder
- Hb.13:22, words can change people
- Hb.6:11, exhortation (18)

I. He Expected His Exhortation
To Affect Them, 6:1-3, 11

II. He Warned With Examples
Of Those Who Failed, 6:4-6

Their past condition

- Enlightened. 10:32
- Tasted heavenly gift. 2:9
- Partakers of Holy Spirit. Ro.8:14-17
- Tasted good word of God. 1 Pt.2:2-3
- (Tasted) miracles (powers) of coming age.
 - Messianic period (2:4-5)
 - Began when Lord sat at Father's right hand (1:3)
 - To be consummated at second coming

1 Co.10:1-5

- Num.20
- Hb.11:13-16...
 - Having seen promises afar off, v.1
 - Assured of them, v.7
 - Embraced them, v.8
 - Confessed...pilgrims on earth, v.17-19

Their present condition

- Fall away, 6.
 - ASV: “and then fell away” . . .
 - Impossible to renew them (4-6)
- Crucify again for themselves the Son of God.
 - Jews judged Him worthy of death
 - Apostates cast their vote with Jews...
- Put Him to open shame
 - Actions: He has not suffered enough

The reasons for their fall

- Drift away, 2:1. River. Memory. Ship. Mind.
 - Apostasy is not the giant work of one moment, but the gradual result of many little moments as sinful views and desires replace good ones

The explanation for their fall

- Drift away, 2:1.
- Neglect, 2:2-3. Unconcerned.
 - Mt.22:5
 - Ac.24:24-25
 - Apostasy is not always the result of heinous sins we commit, but of good deeds we ignore

The explanation for their fall

- Drift away, 2:1.
- Neglect, 2:2-3. Unconcerned.
- Did not hold fast, 3:6, 14
 - Ro.1:18, For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness
 - Ps.37:31, The law of his God is in his heart; None of his steps shall slide [slip].
 - Word / Truth is our rail in life...

The explanation for their fall

- Drift away, 2:1.
- Neglect, 2:2-3. Unconcerned.
- Did not hold fast, 3:6, 14
- **Lazy, sluggish, 5:11; 6:12**
 - Hard of hearing . . . lack of application
 - Mt.25:26

The explanation for their fall

- Drift away, 2:1.
- Neglect, 2:2-3. Unconcerned.
- Did not hold fast, 3:6, 14
- Lazy, sluggish, 5:11; 6:12
- Deliberately, intentionally, 10:26...
 - Nu.15:32-36
 - 1 Co.10:12

Summary:

*indifference (2:1-3)

*rejection (6:4-6)

*contempt (10:26-31)

I. He Expected His Exhortation
To Affect Them, 6:1-3, 11

II. He Warned With Examples
Of Those Who Failed, 6:4-6

III. God Is For Us, 6:9-10

Savior, 2:9-15

- Not only left heaven to descend to angelic level...
 - He came all the way down to human level
 - Hb.5:7-9

Savior, 2:9-15

Access to throne of God, 4:16

- “Throne”: seat of honor, especially of authority.
- Hb.1:8, But to the Son He says: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

Savior, 2:9-15

Access to throne of God, 4:16

Forgiveness of sins, 8:10-12

- Lk.15
 - Father does not respond with hesitation
 - Father falls on son's neck (to embrace lovingly)
 - Kiss fervently (W.E.Vine)

I. He Expected His Exhortation
To Affect Them, 6:1-3, 11

II. He Warned With Examples
Of Those Who Failed, 6:4-6

III. God Is For Us, 6:9-10

**IV. Encouraged By Example
Of Those Who Succeeded, 6:12**

Success! Hb.11:1, 4-6...

- Not enough space to mention all.
- It's not all bad – we can do it.
 - Ro.11:3-4
 - Dn.1:8
 - Many may be going to the dogs – drugs, drinking, dissipation, doctrine...
 - Many others are studying, serving, and staying the course.