

Buyer's Remorse

Hebrews 11

- Heroes of faith
- Shared trait: took WORD of Lord seriously

I. Possibility of Apostasy: Hebrews

2:1-3, danger: drift away

- Ring
- Crumb of food
- Ship drifts past anchor
- Pr.3:21, My son, let them not depart from your eyes
 1. Great revelation demands great concern
 2. Neglect of Law given by angels was fatal...
Ac.3:22. Hebrews 1
 3. Gospel superiority, Hb.2:3

2:3, gospel superiority

1 Original commencement

2 Divine proclamation

3 Miraculous confirmation

- Neglect salvation (be unconcerned)
- “Bible: says what it means...”

3:7-4:14, if Jesus is so great,
we must trust and obey

3:8: hard hearts stole Israel's rest

- Harden: make stubborn

3:12: beware!

“In old times the glory of Israel was the knowledge of the living God; but now to fall back from Christianity to Judaism was to revolt from Him, for as God is living so the revelation He gives of Himself is progressive” – Westcott

3:7-4:14, if Jesus is so great,
we must trust and obey

3:8: hard hearts stole Israel's rest

- Harden: make stubborn

3:12: beware!

We stand to lose even more

Moses did not reach Canaan

- He did go to the Lord (Mt.17)

If we do not reach our rest, we will not reach
heaven

3:7-4:14, if Jesus is so great,
we must trust and obey

3:8: apostasy stole Israel's rest

3:12: beware!

3:13-14: mutual exhortation and admonition –
a way to avoid apostasy

- Daily exhortation / prayer / gratitude...

3:19: unbelief. The faith they had at the
beginning failed them

- Same fate threatens readers of Hebrews

6:1-12

6:6: *and having fallen away* (3:12, *apostasy*)

- Some make it an imaginary warning (impossible for true child of God)
- Hoping for best proves possibility of worst
- 6:11-12, God *gives no frivolous warnings*

10:19-31

God will judge not only adversaries, but
deserters

12:12-29

Do not say 'no' to God...

I. Possibility of Apostasy: Hebrews

II. Probability of Apostasy

Not because God is inadequate or unconcerned

- Word, Hb.4:12 (choice: 11:25)
 - Living: achieves its purpose
 - 4x of God: 3:12; 9:14; 10:31; 12:22
 - Active: effective; shows us what we are
 - Piercing: sword cuts away sin; pierces the heart
- High Priest, Hb.4:14-16
 - Forgiveness of sins
 - Help to win

Warning signs

1. **Neglect**, 2:1-3
2. **Hardening of heart**, 3:7-8 (13, 15; 4:7)
 - 12: danger: heart condition. Examine
 - 13: defense: mutual admonition. Encourage
 - 14: desire: faithful to end. Endure
 - 15-19: directions: God's daily care... Edify

Warning signs

3. Weakening of their faith, 4:1-11

- 2: Israel heard without obeying
- 11: some who did obey did not last
- 12: sword cuts away sin, frees, urges...

Warning signs

4. Slow growth, 5:11-14

- Writer wants to take them from milk to maturity
- Dull – ‘lazy as to one’s ears’; to be slow to understand, with an implication of laziness (L-N)

Warning signs

5. Callous indifference for sinfulness of sin, 6:4-6

- Disobedient re-nail Jesus to cross...
re-shame Him
- Jews murdered Him; apostasy to Judaism
says they were right
- Possibility of apostasy can lead to impos-
sibility of repentance –
 - ¹ Hard heart
 - ² Same gospel they rejected
 - ³ Call of the wild

Warning signs

6. **Wavering**, 10:23

- Lit., does not bend; is straight
- Some waver in pleasure, persecution, peer pressure

7. **Laying out**, 10:24-25. We need one another

- 26-31

8. **Fear of persecution**, 10:32-39

9. **Weighed down by sin / world**, 12:1-2

I. Possibility of Apostasy: Hebrews

II. Probability of Apostasy

III. Prevention of Apostasy

Hebrews 12

- Endurance, 1-2. Goal: likeness to Christ
 - “Am I farther down the road than yesterday?”
 - Don’t quit in . . .
 - ...prayer, Lk.18:1
 - ...perseverance, 2 Co.4:1
 - ...hope, 2 Co.4:16
 - ...work, Gal.6:9
 - ...trust, Ep.3:13
 - ...doing good, 2 Th.3:13
 - ...endurance under chastening, Hb.12:5

Hebrews 12

- Endurance, 1-2
- Example, 2-4
- Exhortation, 5-6 (13:22). Job 4:4
- Endearment, 12-15 (4:1, lest anyone fall short...)

“A real faith is to the believer like the hair of Samson, in which his great strength lies.”

Without it, we are as weak and defenseless as he.