

Three Certainties of the Christian Life

Hebrews 10:26-39

Salvation begins with a transformation process (26-31)

A. A hypothetical case

1. The writer includes himself in this case to show that there are no ex_____ to this truth (compare Gal 1:8)
2. The conditions
 - a. If one has the l_____ of sinning (Greek tense refers to habitual action)
 - b. If one has received the knowledge of the t_____ (Greek tense refers to a specific time when a person professed to accept Christ)
 - c. If one engages in the sinful lifestyle w_____
 - 1) This word is used in 1Pet 5:2 to refer to how pastors must shepherd their congregation – not because they have to but because they w_____ to)
 - 2) Someone who is working to overcome an a_____ but is failing miserably does not fulfill this condition because they are not willfully sinning.
3. The certainty – there no longer remains a s_____ for sins.
 - a. Christ's as one's sacrifice can only be applied by f_____ (Rom 3:25; Jn 3:17)
 - b. The above person did not really have faith.

B. At the moment one truly accepts Jesus as their Lord and Savior, a transformation process begins and continues throughout life.

1. Jesus' parable of the sower (Matt 13:18-23)
 - a. Points out that many seem to be saved by accepting the gospel but do not really have faith.
 - 1) Hear it, but f_____ about it.
 - 2) Receive it with j_____, but want nothing to do with it when trouble arises in connection to the gospel.
 - 3) Receive it, but they focus so much on the worries of the world and the pursuit of r_____ that it chokes out the gospel from their lives.
 - b. Points out that only the ones who bear f_____ have genuine faith (bearing fruit means living like God wants)
2. Those that have no transformation taking place are still under God's w_____ (v. 27)
 - a. Today, many use the sinner's p_____ as their "fire" insurance but have no desire to change their lifestyle.
 - b. The Hebrew writer applies it to the false teachers who were once among them but separated (vv. 28-31)

- 1) Just as in Moses' day, those who were among the people of God (Israel) but rejected the Law of Moses, d_____ without mercy, so more so today, those who are among the people of God (the church) but reject the New Covenant of grace will die without mercy (vv. 28,29a).
- 2) These false teachers were guilty of three specific things that guaranteed their condemnation (vv. 29b-31):
 - a) They t_____ the Son of God underfoot – no longer believed Jesus to be the Son of God
 - b) They regarded the blood of Christ as un_____ - insufficient for the forgiveness of sin after originally claiming that it sanctified them (made them clean)
 - c) They insulted the Spirit of g_____ - they promoted salvation by works of the Law.

3. What evidence shows that you are in a transformation process?

There will be tribulation periods since Christ has changed you (32-34)

A. The Hebrew writer reviews the past of his readers.

1. They were publicly r_____ for their faith in Christ
2. They stood by those who were p_____
 - a. Showed s_____ to those who were imprisoned for their faith (they visited them)
 - b. Joyfully gave up their p_____ to those who seized it because they know that they have reserved for them an e_____ possession.

B. Jesus warned His followers that as long as we are in this world, we will have t_____; but we are not to fear because Jesus has overcome the world (Jn 16:33).

1. In many other countries, Christians are in constant tribulation.
 - a. Northern Nigeria – churches b_____; torture and death.
 - b. North Korea – imprisoned
 - c. China – jailed if try to make disciples
2. American Christians have less tribulation.
 - a. R_____ for our faith
 - b. D_____ at work
 - c. F_____ for not doing something unethical.
 - d. Students might get f_____ for not holding to evolution.
 - e. Rare occasions – beaten or killed for their faith
3. Don't be surprised when you suffer for your faith.

There will be a Termination point - your life is short (35-39)

A. The snap shot of every Christian's earthly life (v. 36)

1. Having done the w _____ of God (sees one's service to God as complete).
2. For one's earthly life is a little while, very very little (v. 37a)
3. How this part of the scripture flows:

For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. For there is only yet a little while, very very little.

B. The writer adapts Hab 2:3,4 to his readers'

HEBREWS 10:37b,38

He who is coming 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

HABAKUK 2:3b,4

For it will certainly come;
it will not delay

But the righteous
will live by his faith

As for the proud one,
his soul is not right within him

1. Believers are encouraged to e _____ until the end knowing that life is very very short (vv 36,37a)
2. Believers are not defined as those who shrink back to destruction but who have faith that possesses life (see Matt 10:39).