

ENDURING FAITH - Heb 10:32-39

INTRODUCTION

1. Hebrews is a sermon on perseverance: warnings & encouragements. The revelation of salvation is *better* in NCov.
2. Necessity of perseverance w/ promises of preservation - Phil 2:12-13.
 - i. *God at work in us* - experience of *fear & trembling*
 - ii. In Christ: peace; in world, tribulation - Jn 16:33 [Phil 4:7; R 8:35-39]
3. Hebs facing persecution - 2 exhortations & 2 encouragements

1st: An Exhortation to Remember Past Endurance - Hebs 10:32-35

1. v32 - *But* - encouragement & exhortation: *confidence to enter* [v19 - v35]. *But* - contrasted w/ warnings of v23-31.
2. *remember the former days* - 1st *enlightened* [20+ yrs ago?] trib: *endured a great conflict of sufferings*. 1] *endured* - v36; 2] *a grt conflict* = warfare; 3] *sufferings* = "passions;" exps of pain in 2 ways:
 - i. personal suffering: v33a - *public spectacle*: 1] *reproaches* & 2] *tribs*
 - ii. sharing in suffering of other Xns: v33b-34a - loss of property
3. How did they endure? By faith - v34b - knew they had *better possessions*. Remember in order to face impending persecution.
4. Jms 1:2-4 endure in present by remembering past preservation - Eccl 7:10
5. Hb 10:35 - *Therefore* - *do not throw away* [abandon], *your confidence*.
 - i. *Confidence* of v19ff = NCov worship. To *throw confidence away* = *forsaking assembling together* [25] -> apostasy & judgment.
 - ii. *Confidence* = bold courage in persecution by pagans - 1Pt 3:14-16
 - iii. Confidence in worship gives courage in persecution - R 8:31b.

2nd: An Exhortation To Present Endurance - v36

1. Warned against lethargy - *dull of hearing* [Hb 5:11; v12-14].
 - i. *great conflict of suffering* - military terms - Jer 12:5
2. *Endurance* is smthg you do now b/c of what you expect will be in future: *steadfastness* - not quitting before the end: knowing it will end well.

3. *so that when you have done the will of God* = do God's preceptive will thru unfolding of His decretive will. Covenant fidelity; obedience of faith.
4. Hb 10:9 - the obedience of Jesus, Author & Perfector of faith.
 - i. The future = *when you have done* - your version of *It is finished!*
 - ii. Note the importance of deeds - chpt 11's *by faith* = recitation of deeds.
5. *receive what was promised* - *great reward* - eternal Sabbath glory

3rd: An Encouragement of Prophesied Endurance - v37-38

1. Cites Hab 2:3-4 [Septuagint: Greek translation of Hebrew OT].
2. *for yet in a very little while* - Isa 26:19-21 (v20 *hide for a little while*): be protected in view of impending judgment [Rv 18:24]
 - i. What does it look like to endure *for a little while*? Jesus - Hb 2:9.
3. Hab 2:3-4 - response to revelation: pride or faith.
4. Hb 10:37b changes *it* (what is envisioned in the *vision*) to *He who is coming* wh/ = Messianic title. JnB [Lk 7:19-20]; Martha [Jn 11:27]
 - i. The Coming One has come & will come again [Rv 2:25; 22:20]
5. v38 Issues of translation - the man who shrinks back is proud: apostasy
 - i. Who is *My righteous one*? Jesus &/or the Xn
 - ii. If we shrink back, God has no pleasure in us - what pleases God? 11:6

4th: An Encouragement of Present Endurance - v39

1. *we* - God has begun & will complete His work of salvation in us [Phil 1:6]
2. True Xns persevere *to the preserving of soul* - life [Mk 8:35] - 1Pt 1:6-9
3. Have we endured trials in the past? Are we being faithful to worship & witness? Are we certain that, in a little while, Jesus will return?
4. Let us endure in our faith & service to Jesus *for yet in a very little while, He who is coming will come & will not delay. Even so. Come Lord Jesus.*