

PERSEVERING FAITH REQUIRED

Life Groups; Week of Sunday, April 30, 2023; Hebrews 10:19-39; Steve Thiel

Sermon Theme: True faith in Christ not only lives a life of obedience to God's will but also perseveres even in the midst of persecution. When we put our faith in Christ's once for all sacrifice on the cross for our salvation and endure suffering, we can have great confidence in our future reward!

I. Word of Exhortation – Read Hebrews 10:19-25

- A. In verses 19-21. What is the significance of Jesus' body and blood regarding salvation? What does it mean that He has opened "a new and living way through the curtain"?
- B. There are three "let us" commands listed in Hebrews 10:19-25? How would you interpret each of those commands? What is the author exhorting these believers to do?
- C. In what ways do verses 24-25 highlight the significance of the local church? In what ways are the people of God critical in helping us persevere in the faith and hold on to our confession?
- D. How can we help one another have a growing confidence in our Savior? What are practical ways that we can excel still more in "stirring one another up" to love and good deeds?

II. Word of Warning – Read Hebrews 9:26-31

- A. Read Hebrews 10:26-27. What is the reason for there "no longer any sacrifice for sins"? What does it mean "to go on sinning deliberately"?
- B. The author argues from the "lesser" to the "greater". How does the judgment for breaking the Law of Moses compare to the punishment for rejecting Christ?
- C. What three things are listed in verse 29 to highlight the offense that has taken place?
- D. How does the terrifying warning of verses 30-31 discourage us from walking away from the faith and encourage us towards faithful obedience? How do we do this as a local church?

III. Word of Encouragement – Read Hebrews 10:32-39

- A. In Hebrews 10:32-34, what evidence is given for the true and persevering faith of these believers? What stands out to you the most about their actions during this point in time?
- B. Read verse 34. How do we keep the reality of future glory in the forefront of our minds?
- C. Read verses 35-36. What does it look like to persevere in confidence and persevere in obedience? What is the object of our confidence and what motivates our obedience?
- D. At the end of the day, we must continue to walk by faith in Christ. Hebrews 11:1 says that faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen. How does our confidence in Christ's return relate to our ability to persevere in the faith?