
A FEARFUL EXPECTATION!

GOD'S BETTER PLAN**FINAL WARNING – A FEARFUL EXPECTATION!**

Hebrews is a pastor's plea for believers to not drift away, harden their hearts, or fall away resulting in apostasy, but to persevere by faith in Jesus, anxiously anticipating his return, living a godly life that compels others to call upon the name of the Lord and be saved!

WARNING 1 – DO NOT DRIFT AWAY**Hebrews 2:1**

"We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away."

WARNING 2 – DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEART**Hebrews 4:1,7,11**

"...let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it... "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts." Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience."

WARNING 3 – DO NOT FALL AWAY**Hebrews 6:4-6**

⁴ It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, ⁵ who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age ⁶ and who have fallen away, to be brought back to repentance.

WARNING 4 – A FINAL ADMONITION TO AVOID APOSTASY**Hebrews 10:26-27 WARNING TO AVOID APOSTASY**

²⁶ If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, ²⁷ but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

A CONCISE DEFINITION OF APOSTASY

According to Bakers Encyclopedia of the Bible, **Apostasy** is turning against God, as evidenced by abandonment and repudiation of former beliefs. The term generally refers to a deliberate renouncing of the faith by a once sincere believer rather than a state of ignorance or mistaken knowledge.

Apostasy is distinguished from heresy (a denial of a part of the faith or doctrine). Also, it is possible to deny the faith, as Peter once did, and then at a later time reaffirm it.

DELIBERATELY**1 Corinthians 9:17**

If I preach VOLUNTARILY I have a reward; if NOT VOLUNTARILY, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me.

Philemon 1:4

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“But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do would not seem forced but would be VOLUNTARY.”

Apostasy's Dire Result

No sacrifice for sins is left only a fearful expectation of judgment and raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

An unambiguous warning of what is ahead for those who reject the grace of God.

Hebrews 10:28-31

²⁸ Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them,

and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know him who said, “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” and again, “The Lord will judge his people.” ³¹ It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

BODY of Christ –

...who have **trampled** the Son of God underfoot,

BLOOD of Christ –

...who has treated as **an unholy thing** the blood of the covenant that sanctified them,

HOLY SPIRIT

...and who has **insulted** the Spirit of grace?

SLIDE 20

who despises the body of the Lord Jesus Christ,
who declares the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ to be worthless, and
who blasphemes with an arrogant hubris the Holy Spirit.

GOD WILL NOT BE MOCKED!**Galatians 6:7-9**

⁷ Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸ Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. ⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Hebrews 10:19-23 The Believer's Assurance in GOD'S BETTER PLAN

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

A FEARFUL EXPECTATION!

Draw near to God with a sincere heart and full assurance that faith brings
Be cleansed inside and out by the blood of the Lamb and the word of the Lord
Hold unswervingly to the hope of Jesus returning for you

10:24-25 The Believer's Assignment

²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Encourage each other to remain faithful to the Lord
Cherish the Christian Community of Believers
Anxiously anticipate the Return of the Lord