

Sermon Title: A Better Possession

Main Point: Because we have a better possession that abides forever in Christ, we can joyfully endure hardships and afflictions in hope knowing that God who promised is faithful.

Hebrews 10:19-22

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Foundation for Exhortation:

- 1. Confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus
- 2. We have a great Priest over the house of God

3 Exhortations:

Hebrews 10:22-24

let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

- #1 Let us draw near with a true heart
- #2 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope
- #3 Let us consider how to stir up one another

Hebrews 10:26-27

For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

"So here you have in verse 27 a picture of God's wrath: there is a legal picture, an emotional picture and a physical picture. The legal picture is that his wrath is 'judgment.' It is the legal, just act of a judge. The emotional picture is that his wrath is 'the fury of a fire.' Literally, 'a zeal of fire,' or a fiery passion. God is not just a little bit angry, but passionate with fury. And third, there is the physical or material picture: the fire 'consumes the adversaries.' It will swallow up the sinner in the flames of legal and passionate judgment. 'Consume' doesn't mean annihilate. Hell is not non-existence. 'Consume' means swallow up into suffering forever. Justice will be done and holy anger will be satisfied." - John Piper

Hebrews 10:28-29

Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?

Argument from lesser to the greater:

Old Covenant (Moses) vs New Covenant (Son of God)

Law of Moses = Physical Death The Gospel / Messiah = Spiritual Death

<u>Trampled underfoot</u>...**contempt** towards His *person* <u>Profaned the blood</u>...**cavalier** towards His *propitiation* <u>Outraged the Spirit of Grace</u>...**calloused** towards His *patience*

Hebrews 10:30-31

For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

WARNING: To reject the Gospel of Jesus is to cut yourself off from the only hope you have. Not just the loss of life, but the eternal loss of every good and perfect reality found in the presence of God.

Hebrews 10:32-36

But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. For you had compassion on those

in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.

Hebrews 10:37-39

For,

"Yet a little while,

and the coming one 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."

But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

Because we have a better possession that abides forever in Christ, we can joyfully endure hardships and afflictions in hope knowing that God who promised is faithful.

Promises of Encouragement for Christians:

- 1. Salvation is secure Philippians 1:6
- 2. No one who trusts in Him will be put to shame Romans 10:11
- 3. We will dwell in the house of the Lord forever Psalm 23
- 4. Our suffering is producing an eternal weight of glory 2 Corinthians 4:17
- 5. God is working all things together for good Romans 8:28
- 6. God doesn't withhold good Psalm 84:11b
- 7. God is your Father Romans 8:15-17

Romans 8:15-17

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

"The substance, then, of the conviction which is lodged in the human spirit by the testimony of the Spirit of God is not primarily directed to our relation or feelings to God, but to a far grander thing than that—to God's feelings and relation to us...Ah, brethren! expand this thought of the conviction that God is my Father, as being the basis of all my confidence that I am His child, into its widest and grandest form, and it leads us up to the blessed old conviction, I am nothing, my holiness is nothing, my resolutions are nothing, my faith is nothing, my energies are nothing; I stand stripped, and barren, and naked of

everything, and I fling myself out of myself into the merciful arms of my Father in heaven! There is all the difference in the world between searching for evidence of my sonship, and seeking to get the conviction of God's Fatherhood. The one is an endless, profitless, self-tormenting task; the other is the light and liberty, the glorious liberty, of the children of God." - Andrew MacLaren

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