

Some Serious Warnings

February 5, 2023
Hebrews 6:4-8

Pastor Mark Turner
Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Intro:

- Theme of Hebrews: Jesus is Better!
- Heb 5-10 shows us Jesus as our Great High Priest - the Gospel
- Pastor showed us Jesus, now he gives some blunt warnings!
- Passage has been interpreted 4 ways:

1. According to the 1st view, what we might call Arminian view, True believers can lose their salvation if they fall from trusting Christ.

- Bible teaches God won't lose those He saves^{Jn10:28-30;Phil1:6}
- Salvation based on God's eternal plan & character^{Eph1:3-4}
- This view denies Scripture

2. Non-lordship salvation view: Genuine believers can backslide and 'fall-away' and yet remain saved.

- Little biblical evidence to support this view.
- Biblical truth: once saved... never the same!

3. A Hypothetical View: Our author is speaking of something that can't happen but is using as warning

- Reject: a hypothetical warning is no warning at all

4. Fooled Believer View: Our author is addressing professing believers who may not really possess.

- Ask: are you a professor or a possessor?
- Issue: has God ever converted those who fall away?
- American church: look to your "sinner's prayer" rather than looking in faith to what Christ did to save...
- Warning against apostasy 4-6 to visible church (mix of believers and unbelievers)^{Jer4:3-4} Look at Israel...
- Six characteristics of those who turn back:
 1. Professed repentance - repentance is a conversion & lifestyle
 2. Once been enlightened - never looked to Jesus in faith
 3. Tasted the heavenly gift - benefit of being around church
 4. Shared in Spirit - Jesus' Words^{Mt7:22-23}
 5. Tasted goodness - delight in academics^{Mt13:20-21} no root
 6. Tasted powers of age to come - church life blesses!
- Base your salvation on faith in Christ, not your experiences
- Word either produces useful crop or pride bears thorns...

So What?

1. It is dangerous to traffic in Christian matters and reject or disobey the light that God has graciously given to us.^{Titus1:6}
2. It is dangerous to profess faith in Christ but to have NO evidence of fruit in your life!^{Gal 5:19-23}
3. It is dangerous not to practice frequent repentance!
4. It is dangerous NOT to worry about this warning if you heart is callused... OR to worry excessively if your heart is tender.
 - Stop looking at the put-offs^{Eph4:22-24} of Word; instead look to what Christ has set you free to do - put-ons (holy living)
 - Live a life of repentance^{1Jn1:9}
 - Remember the table reminds us that Christ alone saves!

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