

SERMON OUTLINE

In Hebrews 10:32-39 we are given 3 encouragements to not shrink back.

- I. Recall former times of endurance (v. 32).
 - A. You endured hard struggles with sufferings (vs. 33-34a, b).
 - B. Because you had a better, abiding, possession (v. 34c).
- II. Do not throw away your confidence (v 35a).
 - A. For it has great reward (v. 35b).
 - B. For you have need of more endurance to receive that reward (v. 36).
 - C. For judgment is coming (v. 37).
 1. The righteous shall live by faith and God will be pleased (v. 38a).
 2. The unrighteous will shrink back and God will not be pleased (v. 38b).
- III. Live according to who you are, because:
 - A. We *are not* of those who shrink back and are destroyed (v. 39a).
 - B. We *are* of those who have faith & preserve their souls (v. 39b).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, January 10, 2021
Memory Passage: Hebrews 10:39

Passage: Hebrews 10:32-39

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) Read Heb. 10:32-39. Does the tone of vs. 32ff change from vs. 26-32? Explain your answer. What does this tell you?
- (b) How does the adversative “But” which begins v. 32 help prepare you for what follows?
- (c) To what does “when you were enlightened” refer?
- (d) What were the hearers to “recall?”

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) Read Heb. 10:32-39. What made up the “hard struggle with sufferings” our author reminds his original audience that they endured (vs. 33-34a, b)?
- (b) Why would the “recall” of their previous endurance of such struggles bring encouragement?
- (c) What was the “better possession” which they knew would “abide” (v. 34)?
- (d) How did this better possession motivate endurance for this hard struggle (cf. “since you knew” in v. 34c)?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) Read Heb. 10:32-39. What “confidence” did they have and what “reward” does it provide them?
- (b) What is “the will of God” and why does it require “endurance?”
- (c) How does the “For” (v. 36) connect the promise of v. 36 to the command of v. 35? In other words, how does the promise of v. 36 fuel their obedience to the command in v. 35?
- (d) Is the “promise” of v. 36 the same as the “reward” in v. 35? Explain.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) Read Heb. 10:32-39, Is. 26:20-21, & Hab. 2:3-4. In vs. 37-38 we have another example of “verbal analogy” (cf. Ch. 1), the practice of connected two seemingly unrelated texts through a common word or phrase. Here the connecting word in the OT context seems to be “come.” The quotes are from the Septuagint, which differs from the Hebrew text, but the context of both passages is what needs our attention. Who or what is coming in each OT passage, and how do these comings differ?
- (b) What purpose does 10:37 serve in our author’s argument?
- (c) In what ways might the original hearers “shrink back” (v. 38) and why does God have “no pleasure” in those who do?
- (d) Notice that vs. 32-39 have changed to 2nd person (“you”) from the 3rd person language in vs. 26-31, which culminates in v. 39’s “But we are not of those who shrink back” where the author includes himself with his hearers. What is he claiming?
- (e) How do vs. 37-38 inform our understanding of what is being said in v. 39?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) Read Heb. 10:32-39. TRAVELING INSTRUCTIONS: What are your “struggles with suffering?”
- (b) In what ways are you tempted to “shrink back” and not be faithful in the midst of these struggles?
- (c) Our author pointed to his audience’s perseverance through times of trouble as the foundation for urging them on to more perseverance. How does your abiding possession, your reward, fuel your perseverance through times of trouble?
- (d) Write down at least 4 ways you will apply this fuel to your life in the coming week.

DATE: January 10, 2021

PASSAGE: Hebrews 10:32-39

We Do Not Shrink Back!