

## Hebrews 4:14

### Holding Fast

The writer of Hebrews gives this instruction and moves on, but we dare not just pass over it. For the instruction of holding fast is woven throughout scripture, and yet, even in the visible church, the idea of holding fast is still a foreign concept in this age of commitment and responsibility-free living. We simply do not appreciate the value in clinging to something (or someone) with a determination to never let go. Fortunately for us, God has always been the God who will never relent when He has set His love upon us; He will never cast us off, and will always keep His promises, no matter what may come. This hope then, becomes the confidence that allows us to cling to Him even when things don't make sense to us. What is more, His own grace is the power that will never allow us to ultimately fall away, for He guarantees that He will lose nothing that He has determined to hold. So let us consider the blessings that come from learning to hold fast.

# I. RIGHT OBJECT – GOD

Dt. 10.12-11.1 ALL of our holding fast must be ultimately aimed at holding fast to God. It cannot be secondary. He is more important than any other allegiance, any other distinction. He ALONE is our hope, He ALONE is our confidence, He ALONE is our everything.

Joshua 22:5 (NKJV)

5 But take careful heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, to love the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, to keep His commandments, to hold fast to Him, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul.”

Note:

Careful heed of the Commandments

Love God

Walk in His ways

Obedience to His commands

Serve with all heart, all soul

Again the focus of this action is God, we MUST be aimed at being pleasing to Him and to Him alone.

## II. RIGHT EXAMPLE

a. Giving earnest heed to the instruction of God

Hebrews 2.1

Proverbs 19.27

b. Living in the certain knowledge that we hold fast only because God holds fast to us –

1 Peter 1.3-9

1 Thessalonians 5:24

He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

2 Thessalonians 3:3

But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.

c. Living out the commands in every way possible -

Philippians 2.12-16

Philippians 4.4-7

i. Joyful

ii. Gentle

iii. Peaceful

iv. Safe (because God is faithful, and Christ is on watch over us)

### **III. RIGHT CHARACTER**

a. Intentional

i. Set your hearts on the words of God –

Deuteronomy 32.46

- ii. Set your mind on Christ and cling to Him as your head –

Colossians 2.16-19

b. Intellectual

- i. Let the truth of God be your thought and consideration –

Proverbs 2.1-6,  
Proverbs 4.1-4, 20-22,  
Romans 12.1-2

- ii. Balance the fact that you don't know everything with the fact that what you do know by the Word of God and His Spirit is truth –

Revelation 2.25, 3.11

c. Purposeful

i. Take heed to yourself –

Deuteronomy 4.9

ii. Teach your children and grandchildren

d. Hopeful –

Philippians 3.12-16

e. Cautious –

1 Thessalonians 5.21-22

f. Determined –

1 Timothy 6:11–16

## IV. RIGHT PRACTICE - HOW TO DO IT

### a. What you keep out...

- i. Other loves, other gods - put aside your idols
- ii. Limit other worldview influence
- iii. Need to know what shape the lies come in to some degree, but the best defense is to know the shape of the truth dead to rights
- iv. Be careful of the subliminal influence you allow
- v. Stay away from "religious disputes" - arguments over nothings that really don't matter –

1 Timothy 6.20-21

### b. What you put in...

i. A steady diet of God's Word –

**2 Timothy 1.13-14**

ii. Certainty of the truth of the gospel –

**1 Corinthians 15.1-8**

iii. Confidence in the promise, joy and hope

**Hebrews 3.6**

iv. Reminding one another, in every way possible.

**2 Peter 1.12-15, 3.1**