

Read Hebrews 10:19-25

Introduction

Why is so much of the Bible devoted to doctrine?

Because the consequences of these truths are vitally important.

The way we live as Christians must be consistent with our professed faith.

A claim to a holy Christian life has no validity or meaning uncoupled from the doctrine of the Word of God.

This is a view strongly set forth by the author of Hebrews.

Summary

In Hebrews 10:19-25 the author moves from doctrine to application, telling believers that what we believe must transfer into our life and actions.

1. Definitive Possessions vv. 19-21

Vv. 19–21 summarize the great doctrinal sections of Hebrews by identifying two things believers have because of Christ's person and work.

First; access to God through Jesus Christ (**Heb 10:19–20**). The key idea here is “confidence to enter by the blood of Jesus.” This confidence is something believers have, and must know that they have, in order to lead productive, godly lives. This kind of access is something new (**Heb 10:20**). It is a new way Jesus has opened.

Secondly, believers “have a great priest over the house of God” (**Heb. 10:21**). The one who opened and secured the way for us into God's presence is there Himself. Because our high priest is there, we can know that we belong there, too, and can thus approach with confidence.

2. Worshipping Life vs. 22

It is because of our great possessions in Christ that Christians have an obligation to live a certain way.

The author of Hebrews sets out a threefold manner of life as the believer's proper response to Christ's saving ministry.

Three times in Hebrews **10:22–25** the author says, “Let us.”

Together these exhortations present a pattern of life that every believer is to make his or her own.

First, a Life of Worship (**Heb 10:22**).

Because we have confidence to approach God's throne, and because we have a great priest over the house of God, let us in fact draw near to God.

This exhorts us specifically to prayer and more generally to a life of worship.

Heb 10:22 presents a summary for how to draw near to God in worship.

First; sincerity.

Secondly, "in full assurance of faith."

Thirdly, "with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience."

Fourthly, having "our bodies washed with pure water."

If you are not benefiting from worship—as you must to grow in Christ, you might consider the words of Hebrews 10:22 and its instruction on worship.

3. Truthful Life vs. 23

Christians are also called to a life of truth (**Heb. 10:23**). This is the second of the three exhortations: we must hold firm to the gospel hope in an unbelieving world. The word "confession" here means a public and doctrinal confession, and it is in this manner that we must uphold the truth. In the expression, "the confession of our hope," the author speaks of the substance of our faith.

All around the globe Christians are publicly professing the content of their faith, and often suffering real persecution as a result.

Christians are not only surrounded geographically, but also historically, by those who have been unswerving in their devotion to the content of our hope.

Rev 12:11 "They have conquered by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death."

Unswerving devotion to Christ and his gospel is very important to the author of Hebrews, and he is determined to thwart any idea of compromise among his readers. (**Heb 3:6, 14: 4:1**). Our confession must not waver. We have every reason to hold fast, for, "he who promised is faithful" (**Heb 10:23**).

We are often tempted to separate our theological convictions from how we live.

What other generations of Christians willingly died for, we consider needless points of doctrine.

Nothing is more important than what we believe; nothing so shapes the way that we will live, and nothing is more important to the Christian life than the content of the faith we profess.

Therefore, we are not to be silent, nor to compromise the truth we have received, but to hold unswervingly to the gospel truths and promises that give us our hope. "He who promised is faithful," says our writer, and we, as a result, can be faithful to him.