

An Exposition of Hebrews

Lesson 14 – Chapter 10:26-39 ³⁴¹⁴

Passage NASU	Commentary & Analysis	Bible Interprets the Bible References
<p>Contextual Transition: A change of subject rooted in the context of that which proceeded to now being, what is the basis of our confession?</p>		
<p>The Just Live by Faith Here is a literary example of the context following the point being made.</p>		
<p>10:26-27 <i>For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME <u>THE ADVERSARIES</u>.</i> ^{Is 26:11}</p>	<p>This passage is directed to the adversaries of the gospel with threats of divine judgment on those outside of the faith.</p> <p>Who specifically are these adversaries? This epistle is written to the Hebrews people of that time (≈ 67 to 69 A.D.). These Hebrew unbelievers clearly had their Scriptures which sufficiently described God’s provision for their salvation and yet they were ignoring this revelation by God in favor of their own self-righteousness which they were now depending on to provide restitution between them and God. To sin willfully without the covering (atonement) of God’s provision is to draw judgment upon oneself.</p>	<p>Selected OT Gospel Presentations: These referenced selections contain some element of the gospel message, not necessarily the whole gospel:</p> <p>Proto-evangelions: Gen 3:9; 15b; 21; Gen 15:12-18; Gen 22:9-19; Job 9:32-35; 16:18-22; & 19:23-27; Ps 2; Ps 22; Ps27; Ps 32; Ps 40; Ps 51; Ps 73; Ps 130; Ps 131; Ps 139:1-18; Pr 2:1-11; Pr 3:1-13; Pr 4:1-13; Is 9:1-7; 40:28-31; 53^{all}; 64:6-8; Jer 31:31-34; 33:14-18; 36:24-32; 37^{all}; Dan 4:34-37; 12:1-3; Hos 2:19-23; 14:1-2 & 4-7; Mic 7:7-9; & 18-19; Hab 2:4; Zech 12:10-11; 13:8-9; Mal 3:1-4;</p>
<p>10:28 <i>Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.</i></p>	<p>Under the National (Israeli) Mosaic Covenant, Hebrews were to be held to an extremely high standard regarding obedience to the Law.</p>	<p>Deut 17:2-5 <i>If there is found in your midst, in any of your towns, which the Lord your God is giving you, a man or a woman who does what is evil in the sight of the Lord your God, by transgressing His covenant, ³and has gone and served other gods and worshiped them, or the sun or the moon or any of the heavenly host, which I have not commanded, ⁴and if it is told you and you have heard of it, then you shall inquire thoroughly. Behold, if it is true and the thing certain that this detestable thing has been done in Israel, ⁵then you shall bring out that man or that woman who has done this evil deed to your gates, that is, the man or the woman, and you shall stone them to death.</i></p>
<p>10:29 <i>How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve <u>who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as <u>unclean</u> the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?</u></i></p>	<p>Under the “new covenant” which is clearly of a much higher order, what must the penalty be for the offense against this covenant. Three forms of offense are mentioned here. They are:</p> <p>1st Trampling under foot the Son of God, 2nd Regarding as unclean the blood of the covenant, and 3rd Insulted the Spirit of grace.</p> <p>It is not possible to have been born again, to be indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and thus to believe or act such as to have transgressed any and certainly not all of these three offenses. Here we have a false or at least a deluded profession of faith.</p>	<p>Matt 12:31-32 <i>"Therefore I say to you, any sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven. ³²Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come."</i></p>
<p>unclean <i>κοινον koinon</i> (Str. 3839) 14x; meaning common, belonging equally to others, profane, ceremonially unclean, impure. Not differentiated from others of similarity.</p>		
<p>NOTE: It is a good thing for Christians to routinely test oneself to ensure that we are “in Christ” (not a tare) by evaluating ourselves with great care and integrity regarding our success or failure at not committing one of the three forms of offense mentioned in verse 10:29 above!!</p> <p>Whether we believe in the eternal security of the believer (which I do believe!) or not, the result is the same. Those who enter into apostasy will not go to heaven. These 3 offenses are the beginning and the root of such apostasy!</p>		

<p>10:30 <i>For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY." Dt 32:35 And again, "THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE." Dt 32:36</i></p>	<p>It is God the Father who has declared His royal and absolute justice regarding sin. He will not equivocate!</p> <p>It is God the Father who has declared that He will judge His people (Israel) for their disobedience and sin. In Christ, our sin has already been judged, but if one is presumptuous about our own sin, it is probable that we are not in Christ!</p>	
<p>10:31 <i>It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.</i></p>	<p>Because of fear of and through an existential love of God, throughout your life, we saints are required to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Live as spiritually alive, responsive to the Holy Spirit! 2. Learn to hate sin (especially your own sin) as God does. 3. Stay connected in a serious way to the Word of God. 4. Make it a normal and consistent thing to repent regularly and seriously of sin. 	<p>Phil 2:12-13 <i>So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.</i></p>
<p>The difficulty with believers: In Mat 13:18-23 The Parable of the Sower – as applied to the church:</p> <p>13:19 <i>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road.</i> Without soil – a weak tare.</p> <p>13:20-21 <i>The one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away.</i> On rocky soil – a routine tare.</p> <p>13:22 <i>And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word and the worry of this world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.</i> Among the thorns – a strong tare</p> <p>13:23 <i>And the one on whom the seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.</i> On good soil – a true saint in Christ, the one who is eternally secure in Christ Jesus!!</p>		
<p>“The anemic view of God held by many church members is evident in doctrinal confusion, corrupted worship, compromised evangelism, and spiritual deadness. The absence of awe, wonder, and exaltation in our worship indicates that we have rejected one of the most critical teachings of Scripture - the fear of God.” Steven J. Lawson, <i>Made in Our Image</i>, p. 13</p>		
<p>10:32-33 <i>But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings, ³³partly by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated.</i></p>	<p>Here the author is writing to those Hebrews who have been faithful after having been enlightened by the Holy Spirit of God. These have endured great conflict and sufferings and have been made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations. These have come to share with other saints who have been so treated. These are faithful to Christ.</p>	<p>Php 1:27-30 - - - ²⁹<i>For to you it has been granted for Christ’s sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, ³⁰experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me.</i></p>
<p>10:34 <i>For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one.</i></p>	<p>Here in verses 32-34 we see specific examples of bearing fruit which is evidence of an actual conversion by the power of God through the indwelling Holy Spirit. False converts, tares, are often sincere, but without the actual work of the Holy Spirit, such conversions are only temporary, without the power of being a new creation in Christ. It’s just a sinner, trying to act like a saint of God!</p>	<p>Heb 13:1-3 <i>Let love of the brethren continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, and those who are ill-treated, since you yourselves also are in the body.</i></p>

<p>10:35 <i>Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.</i></p>	<p>Since an indwelt, regenerated saint cannot lose his salvation, there must be a sincere category within the church that this epistle is speaking to. Those who have learned of the gospel, have basic knowledge of the Christian faith, but not yet born anew, these are being addressed here with the caution not to throw away your confidence in that which you have come to know as Truth, because if you do, great reward is lost.</p>		<p>Heb 11:24-26 <i>By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward.</i></p>
<p>10:36 <i>For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.</i></p>	<p>To be faithful to God as the servant of Christ, requires endurance in the faith and active obedience to God's will.</p>	<p>Rom 10:1-3 <i>Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation. ²For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. ³For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.</i></p>	
<p>10:37-39 <i>FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE, HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY. ³⁸BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH <i>Hab 2:3-4</i>; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM. ³⁹But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.</i></p>	<p>The Lord's coming is expected soon. There are no further events that are necessary for that day to come. We, who are in Christ, are commanded to be ever ready for His appearing and to live a life of clear, expressed faith in service to Him until that day appears!</p> <p>1 Thess 5:2-11 <i>For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. ³While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape. ⁴But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief; ⁵for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness; ⁶so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober. ⁷For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.</i></p>		
<p>Summary/Conclusions/Comments: God's elect, those regenerated by the Holy Spirit are those who hold the promises of the world to come. Not the lost, not the tares who are the religious lost! Test yourselves carefully in accordance with 2 Cor 13:5!</p> <p>Mt 13:23 <i>And the one on whom the seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">On good soil – a true saint in Christ, the one who is eternally secure in Christ Jesus!!</p>			

Important Quote(s)

In olden days men of faith were said to "walk in the fear of God" and to "serve the Lord with fear." However intimate their communion with God, however bold their prayers, at the base of their religious life was the conception of God as awesome and dreadful. This idea of God transcendent runs through the whole Bible and gives color and tone to the character of the saints. This fear of God was more than natural apprehension of danger; it was a nonrational dread, an acute feeling of personal insufficiency in the presence of God the Almighty.

A. W. Tozer; *The Knowledge of the Holy*; p. 71

One of the most severe indictments of the Apostle Paul ever leveled against humanity is that "there is not fear of God before their eyes" (Rom 3:18). This statement has always been true of sinners who openly deny Christ, however, it is also increasingly true of many professing Christians. This is partly because many pastors not only avoid talking about the fear of God, but they also avoid talking about anything that would give people a reason to fear God. They avoid any mention of sin, hell, and condemnation. What's more, they avoid all talk of holiness, wrath, and sovereignty of God. This is happening not only in many mainline churches that abandoned the Word of God decades ago but also in churches that claim to affirm the historic confessions of the faith. **Burk Parsons**; *TableTalk of 1/18*; p. 2