

Text: Hebrews 10:26-31

Title: The Call to Persevere, Pt. II

3 reasons

I. THE REASSURED PERIL FOR THEIR INTENTIONAL CONDUCT 26-27

A. THE STUBBORN CONDITION 26

The Emphatic Distinction- the sin recently, specifically, particularly addressed= rejecting the gospel, rejecting God's provision of Christ as his/the once for all, permanent, perfect sacrifice for sin. No excuse will do.

The Expect Disaster- How else can it be? When we have willfully rejected, deliberately repudiated, consciously refused God's only provision for sin, God's appointed and anointed Sin-bearer, Redeemer, etc. Cf. 1 Tim 2:4; 4:3; etc. No alternatives, options remain. Jesus Christ is the only one way to God, Jn 14:6. See also Rom 5:2; Eph 2:18; 3:12

B. THE SCORCHING CONSUMPTION 27

The Character of the Fire – furious

The Context of the Fire- judgment. Anticipates Heb 12:29. See Isa 26:11- note context; 2 Ths 1:7-8

The Completeness of the Fire- devour.; no trace of apostates' existence. Consequences of understanding the gospel

II. THE RECALLED PATTERN OF THE INFERIOR COVENANT 28-29

A. THE GRAVE CUSTOM 28

See Dt 17:6; 19:15; Mt 18:16. The merciless, relentless exactitude of the Mosaic law. An invitation to consider, a challenge to reflect on the straightforward, matter-of-fact reality of living under the law. Law = God's external expression of his holy will and character.

B. THE GREATER CONSEQUENCES 29

An inevitable inference. Lesser to the greater argument as in Heb 2:2-3. Note deserve or merit. 3 acts of apostasy described.

Gross Contempt-trampled underfoot. Son of God – recall Heb 1:1-14 culminating in Ps 110:1. Cf. Heb 4:14; 5:5; 7:27-28; etc.

Grievous Calculation- conscious decision, conclusion after weighing sins and merits of Christ. Disparages, disdains, despises Christ's saving, sanctifying blood shed for sin, cf. 10:10, 14; 13:20- blood of the eternal covenant, Mt 26:26-28.

Gravest Crime- contumacious attitude and action. HS – see 3:7ff; 6:4ff; 9:8, 14; etc. Cf. Mk 3:29 Summary: those committing these sins in the new covenant deserve greater retribution than those meriting death penalty in the old- spiritual death.

III. THE REVERED PERSON FOR THEIR INTENSE CONCERN 30-31

A. HIS IMMUTABLE CHARACTER 30

His Immutable Character-from Dt 32:35-36; Ps 135:14. Continuing theme of judgment from 28-29. God's judgment of his enemies brings deliverance, justice to his people at the same time and in the same action. Recall the cross of Christ in which God's judgment of his and our primary enemy, the Satan= his redemption for those placing their faith alone in the crucified One alone. Judgment on apostates = vindication for the faithful.

B. HIS INTIMIDATING CAUTION 31

Fearful ... at beginning of sentence indicates heinousness of the sin and certainty of judgment. Into hands of = under control, dominion of. Jdg 15:18; Lk 10:36. Yet, recall Heb 3:12, similar result but opposite action, and 2 Sa 24:10-14, similar action and opposite result.