

There are 5 warnings given to the believer in Hebrews. The focus will be warning #3.

2:1,2,3,4 – 1st Warning - *Do Not Neglect The Message Of Christ 1:5- 2:9*

We are told that the word is good, but we are to pay special attention to the gospel message. While all the words given by the angels, Moses, and the prophets are profitable to us, there is no greater messenger than God's Son Jesus Christ and no greater message than His teachings.

3:12,13 – 2nd Warning – *Resist Unbelief In The Gospel Of Christ 3:7-4:13*

Constant bitterness because your life is not going to plan is dangerous and just as the Hebrew children were always complaining in the desert at the way things were going many fell into unbelief and never made into the promised. We are told to not let the root of bitterness harden our heart and the best way to avoid this is that fellow Christians encourage one another now, not when it is too late.

6:4,5,6 – 3rd Warning - *Lack Of Spiritual Growth 5:11-6:20*

The writer has been teaching us on the superiority Christ over the angels, over Moses and over the priesthood and he is now telling us Jesus is called after the same order of Melchisedec. Whom, he says was king of Salem a priest of the most high God. This person, Melchisedec is shown to be worthy of receiving tithes, worthy of being called king and is without mother, father, and neither has beginning of days nor end of life but made like unto the Son of God and he abideth a priest continually (7:2-4). This Melchisedec sounds like Christ preincarnate. The writer is wanting them to have a deeper understanding of scripture; but between 5:10 & 7:1 he pauses to rebuke and admonish all those who would cease from growing spiritually.

10:26,27 – 4th Warning – *Do Not Deliberately Disobey 10:19-39*

This warning comes right after the exhortation to not forsake the assembling of our selves together and it goes to the point of willful or deliberate sin. Verse 19 starts by saying we the brethren or the born-again have entered into the holiest by the blood of Jesus and then wonders how we could pull away in verse 26. And in doing so, we have placed our self in a fearful position. You may ask what is willful sin, Numbers 15:30-31 speaks to this even further. When Saul deliberately disobeyed God's command (1 Samuel 15:11) God told Samuel it repenteth Him that He had made Saul king. Saul seemed to repent and be sorrowful several times, but you will have to judge whether or not it was sincere. God rent the kingdom from Saul and Samuel compared his rebellion to that of witchcraft (1 Samuel 15:23).

12:25,26,27 – 5th Warning – *Refusing To Hear 12:18-29*

Once again the writer is comparing the disobedience of the Hebrew children in the wilderness to that of their present time. He says if they could not escape judgment by the one who spoke on earth (Moses), how much more will you not escape if you do not hear and heed the warnings of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is worthy of the same reverence and godly fear as God the father in times of old (v.28).

The 3rd Warning – Lack Of Spiritual Growth 5:11-6:12

There are 2 main views, and many sub-views, that can be applied to these warnings. The Calvinist standpoint does not believe these are directly aimed at true born-again Christians and therefore their salvation is not endangered or that these warnings are merely hypothetical. The Armenian standpoint believes that these warnings are real possibilities and that salvation is conditional upon faith; and that these are saved individuals; and that they are in danger of slipping into apostasy.

Our focus is not to debate the merits or faults of the opposing sides, but to look at why this life style is so destructive. We will take a deeper look at this 3rd warning in Hebrews.

The Problem – Unwilling to learn 5:11-14

- a. They have been in Christ long enough as spectators, it is time to get into the game
- b. They have forgotten some of the basics because they are not exercising their faith

The Need – Maturity 6:1

- a. They are stuck on go
- b. He says it is time to move to maturity
- c. He says you need to know more than having faith, getting wet, and Jesus is coming back

The Warning – Falling Away 6:4-6

- a. Idleness in Christian living leads to falling
- b. Falling brings the rod and staff of God, He will not have His name reproached

The Solution – Soaking It In 6:7-8

- a. Soaking up spiritual knowledge produces fruit
- b. Higher fruit production chokes out the weeds

The Exhortation – God Is Faithful 6:9-12

- a. Be diligent to the end and inherit the promises of God
- b. Do not be lazy and follow those who are mature in Christ