

Hebrews 10:32-39

Hebrews 10:32 (NOTES)

- "Remember ... after being enlightened" - In this context, [enlightened] refers to the point at which any one of them came to the knowledge of the Gospel. Not regeneration and true conversion, but just an understanding of the Gospel. Heb 6:4-8, 10:26-27
- "you endured a great conflict" - When they understood it, some identified as followers of Jesus, but were not yet true converts. This great conflict was persecution. Persecution tends to weed out false believers, strengthen true believers, and purify the Church. Matthew 13:3, 5-6, 20-21

Hebrews 10:33 (NOTES)

- Persecuted and being numbered among those persecuted. They suffered openly and they were labeled and shunned.

Hebrews 10:34 (NOTES)

- "showed sympathy to prisoners" - *Showed*, as in *outwardly*, but did not have hearts of agape love toward them, which is only possible for born again believers, indwelt by the Holy Spirit.
- "accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and an abiding one" - You endured the suffering because you had a hope of eternal reward. But this kind of faith was like that of the suicide bomber. The person is convinced that if he does this or that that he will get a reward. But this is not the same thing as being born again and being contented in. suffering because of the indwelling presence of God's Spirit.

Hebrews 10:35 (NOTES)

- "Therefore, do not throw away your confidence" - Move on to trusting in Christ through repentance and faith. Repentance trusts Christ to forgive. Faith trusts Christ to save. Repentance and faith are two sides of the same coin of salvation. The writer is calling them to true conversion, not just outward expressions and inward hopes of material reward.

Hebrews 10:36 (NOTES)

- "you have need of endurance" - Only the one who endures to the end of his/her life will be saved. Since many of those to whom the writer speaks are not yet true believers, endurance to the end will show who is who. The writer is telling them not to hold back, but to move ahead in faith. Matthew 24:13, 7:22-23

- "so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what was promised" - What is the will of God here? To obey the Gospel and trust in Christ. And what is the Gospel? Good news of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus - for by it we can be saved from the wrath to come and obtain eternal life. 2Thessalonians 1:7-8, 1Corinthians 15:1-4, 1Thessalonians 5:9

Hebrews 10:37 (NOTES)

- "He who is coming ... will not delay" - This is an OT quote about the Messiah. This means that there is an appointed time for the return of Christ, and He will not miss it. Habakkuk 2:3

Hebrews 10:38 (NOTES)

- "My righteous one shall live by faith." - There is a two-fold meaning in this statement. The regenerated true believer who has placed his full trust and faith in Christ has received God's righteousness as an attribute of his existence in God's sight. Thus, eternal life comes through faith. But the true believer lives a life of faith in Christ, not only for salvation, but for sanctification, provision, eternal promises, etc. Philippians 3:9, Ephesians 2:8, 2Timothy 1:12
- "If he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him" - If he falls back into his old beliefs (Judaism) and trusts in them, or fails to go on to faith in Christ, he will not obtain eternal life. This does not mean that he can choose to give up his salvation. Rather, that the one who shrinks back is being identified as one who was never truly converted.

Hebrews 10:39 (NOTES)

- "We are not of those who shrink back" – *We*, meaning the writer and all true born again believers. The writer says "we" in contradistinction to those whom he has been warning that they should not shrink back, but should obey the Gospel and move forward in true saving faith.
- "but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul" – "We" are those that do have that true saving faith in Christ, not just a faith that hopes for things.