Hebrews 10:26-39 Warnings are Necessary!

Warnings are Necessary! –

Warnings can be really intimidating or inviting depending on your relationship to the situation.

A)For example: If you are headed to OCSD harbor for a fun day of relaxation with the kids.

- B)You arrive to find: Warning signs: DANGER HIGH SURF!
- 1)You are bummed because it means you are going to have to pay extra attention to your kids or keep them out of the water altogether.
- C)Now if you are a good surfer: See that sign You ARE STOKED
 1)Epic surf day!

If you are driving to the Mts : Warning sign - Heavy Snow Advisory – Bummed Chains

A)Snow Boarder / Skier - Excited

- B)If you just went to get your hair done (News High Winds Bummed)
- 1) Hair Dresser Excited (**All depends on your relationship to the**Warning!)

C) Warnings are meant to be helpful!

We understand that as parents, right? We warn our kids to stay away from things – because we love them! Protect them – keep from harm.

A)My daughter Amy was a little baby – not even 2 she was still crawling.

B)She was fascinated with the light socket – crawled over – No! owie – bad 1)Hadn't bought the plastic covers

C)She looked at me with the mischievious look – little smile – $\{$ You can't really be serious – $\{$ she still gets that look today at 21 $\}$

D)Picked her up moved her across the room – She crawled right back- over and over – 1)We Had to find a way to divert her attention.

Now was I keeping her away from the light sockets because I wanted to make her life miserable? No

A)Was it because her hair was already curly enough? – Didn't want her to have fun and have the shock of her life? – No

B)I kept her from that because I loved her!
1)That is what parents do.

C)And Sometimes we give a warning – because – we have something better in mind that we want our kids to experience.

Cc)So we warn if you don't eat all your dinner – you will not be getting dessert

D)It is not just that we want the kids to eat the healthy stuff but it is because we know that dessert is going to be amazing –

1)We don't want them to miss it.

Well our HEAVENLY FATHER – the PERFECT FATHER –warns for the same reason.

A)He loves us so much and wants to protect us from harm

B)And sometimes He warns because has something way better in mind for the future – He doesn't want us to miss!

C)Your REACTION to His warning will depend on your relationship to Him and the situation.

With that in mind this morning – we are going to look at a warning found here in Hebrews chapter 10 that is pretty RADICAL.

A)It is a warning that has been misinterpreted and misused a lot over the centuries in the church

B)It has caused fear and consternation in the minds and hearts of many believers.

C)But in actuality, it's a wonderful warning. From a gracious heavenly father.

Break down this morning: A word of warning, A word of encouragement, A word of Hope!

A WORD OF WARNING!

26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. 28 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The Lord will judge His people." 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

PRETTY OMINOUS

Now the phrase if we sin willfully is the one that really trips people up – because if we are honest – we all sin willfully at times.

A) Sins of Ommission (ACCIDENTAL) Sins of Commission – *To him who knows what is right to do* It is sin!!

B)Driving home traffic Thursday: Sinned Willfully – I was speeding – I knew it my wife wasn't in the car to tell me to slow down.

1)So I kept doing it / anxious to get home / lots to do!

C)How many of you sinned willfully this week? –
1)Does that mean that there is NO SACRIFICE FOR SIN and judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries awaits us?

ANSWER IS: NO!!!!!!

This is where Context is so important: This book is written to Jewish believers who going back A)The Willful sin that he is describing is that of going back into the rules and Regulations of Judaism as the basis for their Salvation

B) He makes that Clear in v. 38 Now the just shall live by faith; {Faith in the finished work of Christ on the Cross – He died to pay the price for your sins – that makes you JUSTIFIED – declared righteous }

But if anyone draws back, {Leaves faith in Christ to put their trust in works again} My soul has no pleasure in him."

- D) This is the point After spending all this time Better Ministry of Jesus Better Sacrifice the New has done away w/ the Old
- E)If you are going to go back to living under the OC w/ all of it's rituals and sacrifice Know this:

There is No Sacrifice for Sins!

Apostasy

He has already spent a significant amount of time – telling us that those sacrifices did not cleanse a person from sin!

A)PT of application there is nothing that you can personally do to affect your salvation { improve your standing with God.

B) There is One Sacrifice for Sin – Jesus' Sacrifice

C)So If you are going to make the Basis of your salvation Your own performance – 1)You will be judged on that Basis.

D)So the sin of backsliding here in Hebrews 10 is not going back into sin, but rather turning your back on the Provision *for* sin.

- 1) It is turning one's back on what Jesus did on our behalf.
- E) So If I say, "Jesus didn't really pay the price sufficiently, so I've got to contribute my own effort,"

 1)I am mocking the broken body of Christ, trampling over the cross

What Awaits those people is fearful expectation of Judgment Fiery indignation – { Not going to be a Pretty Picture }

A)V.28 If those who rejected the OC died w/ out Mercy – No mercy for them

B)OC God gave signs and spoke from a Burning MT.

C)But to bring about the NC – He gave His Son! Jesus left heaven – became a man – died

- 1)Of course the Judgment is going to be more severe on those who reject that
- D) Does that mean if a person turns away they can't return?
- 1) It means that until they do there is No Sacrifice there is nothing they can personally do to be right w/ God No Personal sacrifice

Rob, it sounds like you are saying that people can lose their salvation?

- A)No people don't lose their salvation- Not misplaced but the Scriptures do indicate that people leave it
- B) That is what these Hebrew believers were being tempted to do
- 1) Paul talked about Demas left *Loved this present* world 2 Timothy 4:10
- C) 1 Tim 4:1 Last days some will depart from the Faith

D) Wel, I does that mean that they are going to be sent to Hell?

- 1)I don't know this doesn't sound pretty to me Fiery Indignation / fearful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God Judgment
- E) What exactly is he referring to? I don't know but I don't want to find out

So the warning is given – Listen if you are trusting in Christ for your salvation – Wonderful warning – (Assurance not me / Not worried)

A) The warning of Hebrews 10 is not intimidating. It's inviting! It's great news!

B)Free from that feeling of I have got to perform – free from the temptation of going back to self efforts or religious activities.

1)No way – I am FREE to trust in the finished work of Christ!

C)Not worried about Hands of Judgment – I am resting in HIS ARMS OF LOVE!

D)This warning in Ch.10 does not intimidate me – but it invites me to keep my walk with Christ simple – and enjoy my salvation.

1)Because Jesus has done it all.

E)The surf is up – Dessert is coming – blessings are in Store –

1)I am NEVER TURNING BACK!

I pray that is your heart today! – No turning back – why? The work is done! No turning back – this world has nothing to offer me!

A)No turning back – Jesus is it! – I am fulfilled! I am free!

B)So if that is my relationship to Christ – THIS IS A WONDERFUL WARNING!

C)If I am not walking with Christ – rebellion – {
focused on my performance – well this is alarming –
scary –

1)Trust Christ today!

D)Well, the writer follows up this word of warning with a word of encouragement. V.32

32 But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings:

A)These Christians had suffered for Jesus, being rejected from their Jewish community, and perhaps being counted as dead.

B)This came after they trusted in Jesus (after you were illuminated).

33 partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated; 34 for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven.

C)The persecution came in many different ways

- 1)They were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations.
- 2)They were companions of those who were so treated including the writer to the Hebrews himself (you had compassion on me in chains).

D)They also had faced economic persecution (the plundering of your goods).

1)But the point is that they had faced these things, and had **endured** them.

This is his pt They could take a look at their past endurance, (Jesus brought you through) with that in mind be encouraged to keep standing strong in the future.

A)"Knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven:"

B) They made it through the time of persecution by keeping a heavenly perspective.

C)Implication here is intriguing: The idea is this: They were waiting for Heaven – waiting of the Approaching Day –

1)But it had delayed and now they were growing impatient.

D)Losing heart – losing hope!

We can be tempted to do the same – Jesus is coming!!!! Yea / ready – 5 yrs pass/ 10 yrs pass / 20 yrs pass/ 30 / 40 yrs 1971 –

A)Is it really going to happen? – Not in my life time – we drop our guard.

- 2 Peter 3:8-9
- 8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.
- B)So here is what we do we say: It has been 2,000 yrs since the crucifixion and ascension Jesus' promise to return. 2,000 yrs
- 1)God says: From my perspective it has only been 2 days! So hang in there
- 2)I am waiting for more to come to Christ more to repent
- C) Waiting for more pp to turn from their sin and turn to Jesus!
- D)Question{ How many of you have been saved less than 20 yrs Aren't you glad the rapture didn't happen 21 yrs ago
- 1)Less than 10? 11yrs ago / Less than 5 6 yrs ago? 1 year ago?

E)Hang in there – Jesus keeps His Promises! –

1)He has seen you through past trials and He will see you through the present trials. – He is faithful.

Finally a Word of Hope! A great Promise!

35 Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. 36 For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

37 "For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

38 Now the just shall live by faith;

HERE IS THE PROMISE – THE WORD OF HOPE!

- A) Jesus is coming { you can count on that-
- B) The toughest and most discouraging trials are when we are called to obey God's will when the fulfillment of His promise seems so far away.

 1) This is why we need endurance.
- Bb)The biblical word for endurance is different from what we think in English- we tend to think of enduring as hanging on barely
- C)Biblically the word endurance is much stronger and more positive:

Speaks of a steadfastness – it describes a man who is not going to be swerved in his task or endeavor – focused - even conquering.

- D)That is the Biblical description of Endurance why? V.38 gives us the answer The just shall live by faith!
- 1) Notice he didn't say the just shall barely survive by faith.
- 2) They will *limp along* they will
- E)They will LIVE They will be steadfast they will enjoy life Why?

Their faith in Jesus

- A)Their focus is on Him His strength His track record His promise! It is not on them!
- B)Faithfulness during the time when the promise seems unfulfilled is the measure of your obedience and spiritual maturity.
- C)So the just shall live by faith Focused on Christ

But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."

39 But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, {Destruction} but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Pastor Chuck Smith has always taught us that we can rest assured that we are eternally secure as long as we abide in Christ. –

A)This last verse seems to support that idea – Those who draw back will face destruction.

B)Those who believe to the saving of the soul. –

C)Church – let's be those who endure – Stirring up each other – keep going – press on – press through – Keep eyes on Jesus!

Blessings are coming – Dessert is around the corner – Surf's up.