Don't Shrink Back

Hebrews 10:35-39

Sermon Outline

A. Keep Looking Ahead (vs. 35):

- 1. <u>"Therefore, do not throw away your boldness."</u> That this appeal is based upon the preceding verses is shown by the inferential particle, ouv, "therefore." The community must now recapture the fervor that had characterized them. They must display in the present the same stance of steadfast commitment to Christ they had exhibited in the past. [1]
- 2. <u>Throw away</u> The persecution they experiencing must not cause them to lay aside, as if their faith has no value, their confidence in God's ability.
- 3. <u>Confidence</u> —— The direct focus of the author's command to not cast away is confident attitude these believers once had (10:32-34).
- 4. <u>Confidence</u> —— They must remain fearless with no hesitation their unwavering confidence in the Word of God.
- 5. <u>Great reward; Penalty</u> The result for these actions is that God rewards each believer with a great reward (crowns (3 of them); Matt. 25:31-46; 1 Cor. 3:10-15; Rev. 3:21-22) that is everlasting. This is God's payment to everyone who is faithful.

B. Be Patient (vs. 36):

- 1. <u>For</u> Looks back not only to the preceding injunction but to vv. 32-34 as well, where the cognate verb endurance is used to celebrate the courage with which the community had responded to persecution.
- 2. <u>Have</u> These believers must continuously make it a habit to cling to faith so that they endure in midst of the circumstances God allows.
- 3. <u>Need of endurance</u> There is a gap in their lives which involves the need to remain persistent in their faith in the midst of trials.

- 4. <u>Need of endurance</u> There is a gap in their lives which involves the need to maintain an unwavering faith no matter the adversity. This displays steadfastness portraying true Christian character in the midst of trials.
- 5. <u>Done the will of God; Do practice</u> These believers need to demonstrate a determination to walk based on the purposes of God, as outlined in His Word, in an effort to please Him and bring Him joy.
- 6. Receive what was promised; Recompense When they willfully obey God, no matter the adversity they are experiencing, they will carry away the gift God made a pledge to provide them. There is no way this commitment that God has graciously provide not become their reward.
- 7. Any man: This phrase is not found the Greek text. The translation should read "If He."
- 8. <u>Will not delay;Tarry</u> Even though it seems like God is taking a long time, when the right time comes there would be no delay or lingering on His part.

C. Keep the Faith – Forward (vs. 38-39):

- 1. <u>The righteous</u> The righteous are those who faithful respects God's authority, over their lives, and willingly bring their lives in conformity to His Word. These individuals stand in opposition to lawlessness and demonstrate their faith by their works.
- 2. <u>Live Zao</u> Those who are righteous surrender to live in a spiritual manner before God. In other words they live under the direction of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 3:14-21).
- 3. <u>Faith</u> The Word of God becomes a deep conviction with intense trust in God to those who are righteous.
- 4. <u>Faith</u> The righteous completely surrendered to God's Word and as a result remained steadfast in obeying God's will no matter the adversity they may experience.
- 5. <u>Faith</u> The righteous have complete confidence that God's Word is true and as a result trust it at every turn in their lives.
- 6. <u>Draw back</u> The righteous do not back down, because the circumstances maybe fearful, and therefore cease from submitting to the will of God.

- 7. <u>Draw back</u> Drawing back here is a sense of lowering the sails in a boat because there seems to be no wind so those involve give up.
- 8. My soul My soul is a reference to the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.
- 9. My soul has no pleasure A person who draws back the Holy Spirit will not be pleased.
- 10. Of those who shrink back The author knowing this congregation states that these believers are not of those who become timid and cease from keeping the faith because of dire circumstances. They do not give up.
- 11. <u>Destruction</u> To become timid of fearful and not obey God is to renounce their faith in Christ. This causes severe destructive damage to their relationship with the Lord. It could lead to what is discussed in 6:1-6.
- 12. <u>But of those who have faith</u> Destruction does not take place for those who have a deep conviction with intense trust in God's Word. This kind of conviction, intense trust leads to a full surrender causing these believers steadfast no matter the adversity they are experiencing.
- 13. <u>Preserving of the soul</u> This kind of faith leads to causes these believers to remain confident in God's Word which allows them to work out their salvation in fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12-13).
- 14. <u>The soul</u> This kind of faith preserves the soul because it protects the inner most being of the believer from being overwhelm by fear and distress. It brings an inner peace (Philippians 4:4-8; Galatians 5:22-25) so that the believer is not tormented on the inside.