**Fixing Our Hearts on Jesus**

**Encouragement to Persevere**

**Hebrews 10:26-39**

2 different types of encouragement to persevere

**I. Consider the Warning for Continued Disobedience**

A. The terrifying judgment of the Lord

**Hebrews 10:26-27** - *For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries.*

B. Comparison of more severe judgment

**Hebrews 10:28-29** - *Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?*

C. Two truths about God from the song of Moses

**Hebrews 10:30-31** - *For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge His people.” It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

**Deuteronomy 32:35-36** - “*Vengeance is Mine, and retribution, in due time their foot will slip; for the day of their calamity is near, and the impending things are hastening upon them.” For the Lord will vindicate His people, and will have compassion on His servants, when He sees that their strength is gone, and there is none remaining, bond or free.*

1. Vengeance belongs to the Lord

**Romans 12:19** - *Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.*

2. The Lord judges - vindicating the innocent and punishing the guilty

**II. Consider the Positive Motivation for Continued Obedience**

A. Remember the suffering and obedience from the past that we go through together

**Hebrews 10:32-33** - *But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings, partly by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated.*

B. Focus on the better and lasting inheritance

**Hebrews 10:34-35** - *For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one. Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.*

**Philippians 3:8** - *More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ…*

C. Endurance is pleasing to the Lord and results in a great reward

**Hebrews 10:36-39** - *For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. For yet in a very little while, He who is coming will come, and will not delay. But My righteous one shall live by faith; and if he shrinks back, My soul has no pleasure in him. But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.*

**Habakkuk 2:3-4** - *For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay. Behold, as for the proud one, his soul is not right within him; but the righteous will live by his faith.*

**James 1:12** - *Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.*

**Hebrews 6:9** - *But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way.*