
Week 15 Sermon, December 31, 2023
Hebrews 6:9-12 – *Full Assurance of Hope*

Discussion Questions

1. The Jewish Christians in the letter to the Hebrews have been exhorted to keep striving toward maturity in God, living a transformed life. In verse 9, there is a change of focus; an attempt to restore hope to the “beloved.” They are reminded to fix their gaze upon Christ and to bear good fruit, knowing the full assurance of their faith. What is your response when others or difficulties might persuade you to return to your former state?
2. How are we able to have *full* assurance in our own salvation? Why can we “feel sure of better things”(v. 9) and walk in absolute confidence, convinced that we are no longer an enemy but a child of God? What is at stake when assurance is not grasped? Martyn Lloyd-Jones wrote, “We should all be concerned about our assurance of salvation, because if we lack assurance, we lack joy, and if we lack joy our life is probably of poor quality.”¹ What steps can we take to restore joy?
3. Does God expect us to have a perfect walk? What does the author mean in v. 10 when he says, “...your work and the love that you have shown for His name in serving the saints...”? Have you been sluggish in serving His saints? Ask the Lord to reveal to you whether you come to church to minister or be ministered to. Seek His discernment in how to be intentional and actively engaged in your service.
4. Define *Biblical fellowship*. Are you giving of yourself to invest in others? What does 1 Thessalonians 1:3 teach us about our work? C.H. Spurgeon said, “Our faith does not cause Salvation, nor our hope, nor our love, nor our good works; they are things that attend it as its guard of honor.”³ Is it enough to simply listen to the sermon or serve on a Sunday? Read Ephesians 2:10 and Hebrews 10:24-25.
5. Robert Murray M’Cheyne, while recognizing the need for self-examination, wisely urged his congregation that, “they should take ten looks at Christ for every look they take inside themselves.”² What evidence is there in your life that you desire to please God by serving His people? Would you want someone to imitate your faith and patience (v. 12)?

¹ Martyn-Lloyd Jones, *The Sons of God, Rom. 8:5-8*, 16.

² Andrew Bonar, ed., *Memoir and Remains of the Rev. Robert Murray M’Cheyne* (Edinburgh, 1894), 293.

³ C.H. Spurgeon, Sermon 152; Hebrews 6:9, “*Things that Accompany Salvation*” (London, 1857).