

Counsel for the Hebrews (Heb. 10:19–39)

The Hebrew believers were persecuted for their faith in Christ (10:32–33), and some considered apostasy (10:23–25, 35). So the Apostle showed that returning to the old Levitical system was a very bad idea (9:11–10:39, 12:1–4, 13:10, etc.).

I. INSIGHT

- . . **Natural Insight: apostates are not persecuted like faithful Christians are.**
 - . . Some persecution can be staying away from church (10:25) and church leaders (10:33–34).
- . . **Biblical Negative Insight: apostates will actually suffer more and longer,**
 - . . because God has always dealt with apostates in a fearful way (10:28–31) and
 - . . because forsaking the Son and insulting the Spirit is worse than forsaking Moses (10:28–29).
- . . **Biblical Positive Insight: the faithful will be rewarded by the Lord.**
 - . . Those that endure the persecution will be rewarded (10:35–39).
 - . . From ancient times, the heroes of faith have endured and overcome (11:1–40).

D. DETAILS

- . . **There are more details about Christ's sacrifice in Heb. 9:11–10:18 than anywhere else.**
 - . . Christ's sacrifice was the ultimate sacrifice (9:11–22).
 - . . Christ's sacrifice was once and for all (9:23–28).
 - . . It was not a common, animal sacrifice (10:1–10).
 - . . Christ's sacrifice saves perfectly (10:11–18, 39).
- . . **These many details are the basis of the call for loyalty to Christ in 10:19–22.**
 - . . There are far more details stated about Christ's sacrifice than about the persecution.

E. ENTHUSIASM, ENDURANCE

- . . **Some Hebrews were discouraged because of the persecution (10:24–25, 32–34, 12:3–4).**
 - . . They were probably too focused on the painful aspects of Christian fellowship (10:24–25, 34).
- . . **Yet, the Apostle was confident that most would endure and remain loyal (10:39, 12:1).**
 - . . He pointed to the example of the Lord's joyful endurance (12:2–3).

A. ASSURANCE

- . . **Believers should have full assurance and hope because of Christ's sacrifice (10:22–23).**
 - . . Becoming an apostate is unthinkable to those with Bible-based assurance.
- . . **God's promises (10:23, 35–36) and the prospect of the Lord's soon return (10:37) are reassuring.**
 - . . Becoming an apostate is unthinkable to those with Bible-based hope.

Applications: *Endure persecution and remain loyal to Christ by focusing on his sacrifice and promises. Stop neglecting the book of Hebrews! Read it carefully and meditate on it more.*

