



Hebrews 10:19-38 will answer both questions. This passage teaches us that those who believe in Jesus will ...

- # Confidently Enter the Holy Places

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have **confidence** to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ **by the new and living way** that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us **draw near** with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us **hold fast** the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us **consider** how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

No matter how bad things get there is something believers can always do: come confidently into the presence of God. This is because Jesus' death on the cross made it possible. It is not because believers have done anything to deserve this incredible privilege. Believers should know that this is a great honor. They should also know that they must hold on tightly to their faith in Christ, and strive to lift up their fellow believers because Jesus is coming and they should be ready!

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have **confidence** to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,

- **Confidence** - The blood of Jesus that was sacrificed on our behalf (3:6; 4:16; 10:35) is the reason we can have confidence that we have a right to come into the presence of God.

²⁰ by **the new and living way** that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,

- **the new and living way** - When Old Testament sacrifices were given, the sacrifices given remained dead. When Jesus offered Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of believers, He did not remain dead, He was resurrected to life. God is a living God (3:12; 9:14; 10:31; 12:22). The word of God lives (4:12).
- **Curtain** - Those who believe in Jesus live through the curtain. The veil of the Old Testament Temple was torn open to believers (6:19–20; 9:11–12, 24). Jesus' bodily flesh served the same function as the curtain of the Old Testament Temple by serving as a boundary separating the presence of God from humanity. When Jesus' flesh was torn or destroyed, the curtain that was His bodily flesh, like the curtain in the Temple, was destroyed, and the separation between God and believers was removed.

²² let us **draw near** with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

- **Draw near** - This is an exhortation. It is not optional. We must draw near if we truly believe. The blood of Jesus has sprinkled every believer so that he or she is pure before God. The washing with water most likely refers to the water of baptism. There is no longer anything that can separate believers from God. Why would a genuine believer want to do anything other than draw closer to God?

²³ Let us **hold fast** the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful

- **Hold fast** - This is also an exhortation. Believers must hold a tight embrace on their hope in Jesus. Every believer must do this.

²⁴ And let us **consider** how to stir up one another to love and good works,

- **Consider** - This is a third exhortation. As those who believe in Jesus Christ, every believer must make concern for fellow believers a priority. Instead of provoking each other to anger, we should be provoking each other to love and service. Again, this is not optional.

Not Continue Sinning Defiantly

Hebrews 10:26–31 **ESV**

²⁶ For if we go on **sinning deliberately** after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a fearful **expectation of judgment**, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." ³¹ It is a fearful thing to **fall into the hands of the living God**.

There are some people who walk among believers who are not true believers. They know the right words to say, and how to look like a believer should look. Because they embrace and love their sin more than Jesus, they insult Jesus by their misdeeds. Jesus died to take away their sin. They don't want Him to take it away. They want to hold onto it with everything they've got. Their counterfeit faith can't save them. For those who are not in Christ, drawing near to God means receiving a dreadful judgment against their sin.

⁶ For if we go on **sinning deliberately** after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

- **sinning deliberately** - Every human being, including believers, are sinners (1 John 1:8). Believers are in the process of being made new (2 Corinthians 5:17). The goal of the Christian life is to live a life that is without any sin (1 John 2:1, 2). Pretend believers choose to live sinful lives, but claim that they are in Christ. This is a contradiction, and it is an insult to Jesus who died so that those who believe in Him would be made new, in the image of Christ (Romans 8:29). Believers are called by Jesus to live free of sin. This should be their goal.

²⁷ but a fearful **expectation of judgment**, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

- **expectation of judgment** - A person who claims to be saved by Jesus Christ, but who boasts of how they are continuing to sin, should expect to go to Hell and face the judgment of God.

³¹ It is a fearful thing to **fall into the hands of the living God**.

- **fall into the hands of the living God** - In the Old Testament Law those who rejected faith in God and worshipped idols could be put to death (Deuteronomy 32:35&36). An even worse judgement will come upon those who claim to believe but insult Jesus Christ. They claim Jesus' saving power, yet their lives have not been changed.

Struggle Until Joyful

Hebrews 10:32–39 ESV

³² But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a **hard struggle** with sufferings, ³³ sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. ³⁴ For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. ³⁵ Therefore **do not throw away your confidence**, which has a great reward. ³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.

³⁷ For, "Yet a little while,
and the coming one will come and will not **delay**;
³⁸ but my righteous one shall live by faith,
and if he shrinks back,
my soul has no pleasure in him."

³⁹ But **we are not of those who shrink back** and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.
Hebrews 10:19–39 (ESV)

The writer of Hebrews reminds his readers of a time when they lost everything they owned and rejoiced. They rejoiced because they realized that what they lost was of no value when compared to what they had gained in Jesus Christ: forgiveness, holiness, and eternal life. This portion of Hebrews reminds us that believer's joy is still available and encourages them not to lose sight of it. A very tremendous reward is waiting for them. In the scope of eternity, they will not have to wait long to receive it, they persevere.

³² But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a **hard struggle** with sufferings,

- **hard struggle** - The writer of Hebrews reminds those who first received this letter how they had suffered very difficult times because of their faith in Jesus Christ. But they were glad to make these sacrifices because it meant they would spend eternity with Jesus.

³⁵ Therefore **do not throw away your confidence**, which has a great reward.

- **do not throw away your confidence** - Just in case there might be some among those who first heard this letter were considering giving up on their faith, the writer of Hebrews encourages them to dig in, and hold on tight.

³⁷ For, "Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not **delay**;

- **delay** - Habakkuk 2:3-4 is used here to show that God wants His people to grow stronger in their faith during tough times. Habakkuk 2: 3 also says, "If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come". God's timing is exactly right, but it may seem slow to us. If your faith is being tested it is because God wants you to grow stronger in your faith. It is not time to let go, but to grip more tightly.

³⁸ but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him."

- **we are not of those who shrink back** - The writer of Hebrews gives the warning of what will happen if people don't hold onto their faith, God will be displeased, but then he encourages them. He tells them that he is confident they will rise to the occasion. Their faith will persevere.

Are you holding on to faith in Jesus? Is your grip strengthening on Him or loosening? Have you asked God to increase your faith and draw still closer to Him? Or are you straining to hold onto your sin? Let go of your sin, and draw near to God and hold tightly to salvation through Jesus Christ!

Those in Christ have His assurance that they will endure. In the end, they will rejoice forever.

The Full Assurance of Faith (Hebrews 10:19–39)

T H E R E F O R E T N E
U S S F P B A R C O M E
W H E Y A R N D N W C A
H R N M L I O H E A R T
C I D U I O T M D R G F
K N U S L T H H I D N J
E K R B U L E G F S I E
G C E T F M R M N I E G
L A D S R E H T O R B D
U B N I A T R U C S A U
O I E T E V I E C E R J
S T H Y F H S U S E J O
W R W L S E A O E V I L

Therefore, brothers, since we have **confidence** to **enter** the **holy** places by the **blood** of **Jesus**, by the new and **living** way that he opened for us through the **curtain**, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a **great** priest over the house of God, let us **draw** near with a true **heart** in full assurance of **faith**, with our **hearts** sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who **promised** is **faithful**. And let us consider how to stir up one **another** to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one **another**, and all the more as you see the Day **drawing** near. For if we go on **sinning** deliberately after **receiving** the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for **sins**, but a **fearful** expectation of **judgment**, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. How much worse punishment, do you think, will **be** deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the **blood** of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will **judge** his people.” It is a **fearful** thing to fall into the hands of the **living** God. But recall the former days **when**, after you were enlightened, you **endured** a hard struggle with sufferings, **sometimes being** publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and **sometimes being** partners with those so treated. For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. **Therefore** do not throw away your **confidence**, which has a **great** reward. For you have need of **endurance**, so that **when** you have done the will of God you may **receive** what is **promised**. For, “Yet a little while, and the **coming** one 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** and are destroyed, but of those who have **faith** and preserve their **souls**. ([ESV](#))