

*Living Faith*  
*Hebrews 10:32-11:1*

*"It is possible even for an unbeliever to have of 'first love' for Christ. On hearing of Christ's love, of His promises and teachings, of His great works and graciousness, it is easy to be strongly drawn to Him intellectually and emotionally. If He is learned of in a fellowship of believers that is caring and loving, the attraction is even stronger..."*

*These Jews were intellectually enlightened. They knew all the basics of the gospel. But this was no substitute for faith itself. They were well on their way to believing, but they had not believed. So they are told to think about how far they had already come, and what they had already endured, and to complete the process by putting their full trust in Jesus Christ. They were told in effect, 'Remember carefully all the experiences you have had in learning of Christ and in fellowshiping with His people. How terrible it would be to fall back now, when you are so close. You mustn't give up now. How terrible if, after all you have learned of the gospel and all you have suffered and sacrificed for the gospel, you would not receive the real blessings of the gospel—eternal life. You have shown great respect for Christ and great love for His people.' Like the seed in the story ground, they had endured to a degree, but as the persecution increased they would be offended and fall away (cf. Matt. 13:20-21). MacArthur*

- I. The Holy Spirit gives us many things upon salvation, supernatural manifestations that not only seal us unto the day of redemption (Eph. 4:30), but also enable us to stay confident and steadfast in our faith. Confidence in God's promises and faithfulness toward us, as well as having a steadfast endurance in standing firm in the faith, are convictions that must be guarded so that we stay true to Him no matter what this evil world system might throw at us. Jesus expects us to live by faith. It is a responsibility that should not only bring conviction to obey him, but also an excitement in knowing that he is coming soon. Apostates don't understand these things, but we do and it's what gets us through the day as we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith (Heb. 12:2).

Heb. 10:32-36

Heb. 10:26-27

Heb. 10:19-23

Heb. 4:16

Matt. 5:11-12

Luke 8:15

Heb. 11:1

2 Cor. 13:5

***Hypomonē*** = *steadfast endurance*

*In the N. T. the characteristic of a man or woman who is unswerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings.*  
Strong's

- II. There are many reasons for a true blood bought, sanctified, glorified, justified, eternally forgiven believer to shrink back from a strong commitment to Christ if he or she is not careful. Our Lord expects us to live our faith well as salt and light in this world as we keep ourselves sensitive to the fact that he could gather his church to be with him at any moment. It is better to please him in this regard, than to displease him and grieve the Holy Spirit (Eph. 4:30) by not taking our faith as seriously as we ought. We can say with confidence that we are saved when we hold unswervingly to the hope we profess knowing that he who promised is faithful (Heb. 10:23) as we fight the good fight of faith (1 Tim. 6:12).

Heb. 10:37-38

Habakkuk 2:4 (Rom. 1:17; Gal. 3:11)

Gal. 2:20

1 Peter 2:12

1 Cor. 3:12-15

**2 Tim. 1:17** *For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.*

**John 6:39** *And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.*

- III. There are many in the church who are not truly saved. They are the ones who will shrink back, i.e., to abandon Christ, when it becomes too costly for them to remain in the church. The main reason they shrink back is out of fear of those who hate believers for their love of Jesus and the truth of His Word. This will be seen more and more as true believers take their stand on conservative biblical values that speak out against abortion, gay rights, social justice agenda, woke agenda, CRT, etc. As the attack on Christianity increases for its stand on the truth of God's Word, many will leave the church to show that they don't want to identify with it. It is one reason why many will abandon the faith when the lawless one is revealed out of fear of what allegiance to Christ might mean for them.

Heb. 10:39

**Matt. 13:20** *the one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away.*

**1 Timothy 4:1** *Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,*