

STRUCTURE

From Kathryn:

Since we have full assurance of faith through Christ, our superior High Priest, we believers:

I. Must [“Let us”]

- a. Draw near to Christ personally and in encouraging fellowship with other believers (*vv. 22 & 24–25*)
- b. Endure through hard struggles [until the day of Christ’s return] (*vv. 32–38*)
- c. Confidently hold fast to our hope and our faith (*vv. 23 and 39*)

II. Must Not

- a. Neglect corporate worship (*vv. 25*)
- b. Go on deliberately sinning (*vv. 26–31*)
- c. Throw away our confidence amidst suffering (*vv. 32–38*)
- d. Shrink back (*vv. 38–39*)

From Mary:

1. Endure by Embracing Present Possessions in Christ (10:19–25; compare 4:14–16)

- a. 10:19–20 Because we have confidence in new & living access to God through Jesus’s blood,
- b. 10:21 and because Jesus is a great priest over God’s house/people,
 - i. 10:22 Let us draw near with clean hearts and full assurance;
 - ii. 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope;
 - iii. 10:24–25 Let us consider how to stir up to love/good deeds *as the Day approaches*.

2. Do Not Trample Underfoot the Son in Apostasy (10:26–31)

- a. 10:26–27 Warning: if we go on sinning deliberately (*and decisively reject these new-covenant possessions*), there is no other sacrifice for sin available, only fearful expectation of fiery judgment
- b. 10:28–31 Biblical support:
 - i. *Judgment for transgression, lesser to greater* (10:28–29): judgement for breaking Mosaic law vs. judgment for desecrating new-covenant mediator and realities
 - ii. *Judge of transgressions* (10:30–31): The living God avenges transgression, including among those of the visible covenant community, such that it is fearful to fall into his hands; *citing Deut 32:35, 36*

3. Keep Enduring, as in Past, by Embracing Future Possession in Christ (10:32–39)

- a. 10:32–34 Description of former-day endurance: after your conversion you endured much suffering as community by looking forward to your better and abiding possession (inheritance).
- b. 10:35–39 Call to present-day endurance: until he comes
 - i. *Call, negative* (10:35): do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward
 - ii. *Call, positive* (10:36–38) endure in doing God’s will to receive promised reward
 1. *Elaboration, by citing Hab 2:3–4* (10:37–38): endurance *by faith* until he comes, not shrinking back and thereby not receiving God’s pleasure
 2. *Application of Hab 2:3–4 for transition to Heb 11* (10:39): believers are not those who shrink back and thus are destroyed, but rather those who have faith and thus preserve their souls

UNIFYING THEME

From Kathryn: We have bold assurance in Christ as our superior High Priest, and therefore, we must draw near to Christ and one another while holding confidently to our faith until the day Jesus returns rather than falling away and shrinking back.

From Mary: In view our confidence we believers have regarding our new-covenant possessions in Christ of living access to God through Jesus's blood and of Jesus's priesthood over God's people, let us draw near to God, hold fast to our hope, and consider how to stir up one another to love—*rather than continuing in deliberate sin and shrinking back in unbelief so as to reveal that we are at risk of being destroyed*—so that, by faith, we will endure and receive the reward.

AUTHOR'S AIM

From Kathryn: Based on the superiority of Christ, the author aims to exhort believers to live according to the full assurance of faith by drawing near to God, encouraging one another in good works and fellowship, and boldly holding fast our confidence in Christ even amidst persecution, rather than falling away (going on in deliberate sin).

From Mary: The pastor aims to **exhort** this congregation of believers to respond rightly to the reality of Christ's superior high priesthood by embracing new-covenant blessings and not rejecting these new-covenant blessings, **so that** they will confirm by their lives that they truly are of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

How Must We Respond to Christ's Superior High Priesthood?

1. Embrace Our Present Possessions in Christ (10:19–25)
 - Two New-Covenant Possessions
 - Three Exhortations
2. Don't Stomp on the Son, or Else (10:26–31)
 - Warning
 - Biblical Support for Warning: *on judgment and the Judge*
3. Keep Enduring by Looking to Our Future Possession in Christ (10:32–39)
 - Reminder of Former Endurance *in View of Future Possession*
 - Call to Ongoing Endurance *in View of Future Possession*