



The Danger of Unbelief

- Avoid the unbelief of the people of God in the wilderness who failed to enter His rest – we must hold fast to Christ until the end

How should we as Christians understand and apply these warnings against final apostasy?

Warnings in Hebrews: Three Views

1. Loss of Salvation View (Arminian)

- true believers may renounce and abandon the salvation they once had
- the warnings are addressed to Christians; the result is a loss of salvation/eternal life

²⁹ For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; ³⁰ and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8:29-30, 38-39)

Warnings in Hebrews: Three Views

2. Evidence of Salvation View (Reformed)

- true believers will persevere in faith as evidence of their genuine salvation; those who fall away were never truly believers in the first place
- the warning are addressed to a mix audience and warn those who may not truly be Christians – call for self-examination

Warnings in Hebrews: Three Views

3. Means of Salvation View (Reformed 2.0)

- warnings are one of the primary *means* God uses to preserve believers from falling away
- the warnings are addressed to believers, and believers will heed the warnings and avoid a heart of unbelief

A Call to Perseverance

1. Heed the warnings! – use the means prescribed to avoid a hard-heart of unbelief
2. Grow in gospel assurance – as you hold fast to Christ in faith, know that God is keeping you
3. Beware of false assurance – if today you are not holding fast to Christ, repent and trust in Him