

JESUS IS BETTER

More Solemn Exhortations Hebrews 12:12-17 (1008)

An exhortation is often given with either a promise or a warning, in order to emphatically urge that something be done. As we study through Hebrews, we come to three more solemn exhortations, those given with warnings.

A Solemn Exhortation #1 (12-13)

Do address any discouragement or drifting in yourself, or else things will get worse instead of better.

A Solemn Exhortation #2 (14)

Do exert yourself in the pursuit of peace and holiness, or else you will not see the Lord.

A Solemn Exhortation #3 (15-17)

Do beware of letting a bitter root spring up, in yourself and in your fellow church member, through unrepentant sexual immorality and unholiness of any and every kind, or else it will cause trouble and defilement.

A sad example:

Unholy Esau sold a privileged future for an immediate pleasure and could not repent.

When someone continues to be unwilling to repent, they become unable to repent, and are only able to regret what they can not have.

Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions.** The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. What evidences of grace have you seen since we last met?
2. What stuck out to you from the sermon Sunday?
3. Discuss the three solemn exhortations as summarized in the sermon. Which one do you think is most relevant for Christians today? Think about which one stands out to you.
4. How does Esau's selling of his birthright parallel the essence of sin? How does his story serve as a warning regarding reaching the point where a person becomes unable to repent? (Read Gen. 25:19-34)
5. What has the Holy Spirit convicted you of in this sermon?
6. How were you encouraged by this passage?
7. How does this passage connect to or inform our understanding of the gospel?