

Do Not Draw Back

SCRIPTURE READING: Hebrews 10:32-39

INTRODUCTION.

- A. To be a child of God is to live one's life seeking to serve the Lord.
- B. However, there are times when the world tempts us to shrink back from serving the Lord.
 - 1. Temptations of selfishness.
 - 2. Family pressures, peer pressure, social pressures, etc.
 - 3. Temptations to sin or to walk away from God.
 - 4. Challenges of our work environment.
 - 5. Challenges of our school environment.
- C. As the Bible shows, Christians must be strong, not shrinking back from their responsibilities.
- D. With this lesson, we will consider five ways to maintain one's faithfulness to God.

I. HOLD TO YOUR CONFIDENCE IN CHRIST.

- A. Our confidence in Christ, in salvation, has great reward. (Hebrews 10:32-35)
 - 1. Our confidence does not lie within ourselves, but within Jesus Christ.
 - 2. We are to "*hold fast the confidence*" firm to the end. (Hebrews 3:5-6)
 - 3. We have "*become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end.*" (Hebrews 3:7-15)
- B. If we allow ourselves to draw back from serving the Lord, then we are throwing away our confidence in Jesus Christ.

II. ENDURE DOING THE WILL OF GOD.

- A. We must endure doing the will of God. (Hebrews 10:36-39)
 - 1. Such endurance will result in one receiving the promise of eternity with God in heaven.
 - 2. We will endure if live for Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:14-15)

3. We will endure if we continue to serve the Lord, no matter what difficulties we may face. (cf. James 5:7-11)

4. We must run this race with endurance. (Hebrews 12:1)

B. If we endure, then we will receive a crown of righteousness. (2 Timothy 4:6-8)

III. CONTINUE TO LIVE BY FAITH.

A. To keep from shrinking back, Christians must continue to live by faith. (Hebrews 10:38-39; 11:1-6)

1. Believe in the promises of the scriptures. (11:1)

2. This faith is essential to pleasing God. (11:6)

a. Believe God exists. (11:6)

b. Believe God rewards those who seek Him. (11:6)

B. The righteousness of God is revealed when we live our lives by faith in Him. (Romans 1:16-17)

C. As long as we continue to live by faith, we will not draw back from serving the Lord.

IV. REMOVE WEIGHTS.

A. To be faithful to the Lord, we must shed anything which would hold us back from serving the Lord, including sinful behavior and practices. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

1. The apostle Paul told the Christians in Rome to “*cast off the works of darkness.*” (Romans 13:11-14)

2. The apostle Peter instructed Christians to lay aside that which would hinder their growth. (1 Peter 2:1-3)

B. Consider some examples of weights which Christians are to shed. (1 Peter 4:1-5)

C. If we are willing to remove any “weights” and sins, then we will not draw back from serving the Lord.

V. LOOK TO JESUS.

A. We must keep our eyes on Jesus and His teachings. (Hebrews 12:2)

1. Jesus made our salvation possible. (Hebrews 2:10-13)

2. We must press on, keeping our eye on the goal of our salvation.

(Philippians 3:12-14)

B. As long as we are looking to Jesus, keeping our eye on the goal of salvation, then we will never draw back from serving the Lord.

CONCLUSION.

A. Do not draw back from our faithfulness to God.

1. Hold to your confidence in Christ Jesus.

2. Endure doing the will of God.

3. Continue to live by faith in Jesus Christ and His word.

4. Remove all weights which would hinder our faithfulness.

5. Look to Jesus.

B. If you are not a Christian, then come to Jesus today by believing in Him and obeying His call to salvation.

Do Not Draw Back

by John M. Duvall – March 15, 2026 – File #: 1157, Faithfulness

Preached at the Seminole Pointe church of Christ in Edmond, Oklahoma