

§ 4 • Exhortation to Persist in Believing and Warning Not to Disregard the Truth Regarding Jesus' Priestly Role

PART 21

53 Therefore, brothers, since we can have confidence in the acceptance of the *hagioi*, on the basis of the blood of Jesus—an acceptance that he inaugurated for us (confidence in the new and Life-giving way that he inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, the way of his flesh)—and since we have a supremely effective priest in service to the household of God, by reason of this complete, objective certainty to our belief, let us approach God with a true heart. 2•Having sprinkled our hearts because of a consciousness of evil and having washed our body with pure water, let us claim as our own the unswerving affirmation that provides a basis for hope, for the one who promised is trustworthy. 3•And let us attend to one another such that we share in a mutual inducement to love and good works, not forsaking the gathering of believers together (as is the habit of some), but rather fortifying one another—and so much the more as you see the day drawing near.

10:19–25

54 Now if, after receiving a knowledge of the truth, we deliberately choose to act unrighteously toward it, a sacrifice for our sins no longer remains. 2•But there is a certain terrifying anticipation of condemnation—even a fury of “fire that is about to devour those who stand in opposition.” [Isaiah 26:11] 3•Anyone who disregards the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the basis of two or three witnesses. 4•Of how much more severe punishment do you think he will be considered deserving—the one who has stomped upon the Son of God, and who has deemed insignificant the blood of the covenant on the basis of which one is sanctified, and who has responded with haughty dismissiveness to the grace-imparted Spirit? 5•Now we know the one who said, “Retribution is mine; I will repay.” [Deuteronomy 32:35] 6•Then again, “The Lord will rule over and deliver his people.” [Deuteronomy 32:36] 7•To suffer punishment at the hands of the living God is frightening.

10:26–31

55 Now remember the former days in which, after being enlightened, you endured a very challenging opposition that involved sufferings. 2•On the one hand, in this manner: you were publicly humiliated by insults and assaults during a spectacle. 3•And, on the other hand, in this manner: you became sharers with those who were so treated. 4•Indeed, you showed compassion to the prisoners and anticipated with joy the seizure of your possessions, knowing that you have for yourselves a better and a lasting possession. 5•Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. 6•Indeed, you have need of endurance so that, having done the will of God, you might receive the promise.

10:32–36

56 Now, for yet “a very little while” [Isaiah 26:20], “what is coming will come; indeed it will not delay.” [Habakkuk 2:3b] 2•Now “the one who is *dikaïos* before me by virtue of his belief, he shall have life.” [Habakkuk 2:4b] 3•But, “if one hesitates, my soul has no pleasure in him.” [Habakkuk 2:4a] 4•Now we are not of the hesitation, leading to destruction; rather we are of the belief, leading to the preservation of our very selves.

10:37–39