



Hold Fast

Lesson Four • Hebrews 10:23

Confidence to Enter into God's Holy Presence Is Shown by Taking Bold Action to **HOLD FAST** as New Covenant Believer-Priests!

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;" Hebrews 10:23

What's the Big Idea?

As Believer-Priests...never waver in holding fast to your hope of entering into the fullness of God's presence due to Christ's priesthood, because God's promise-keeping guarantees it will be worth it in the end!

Hold on to your New Covenant hope, because God's New Covenant promises are the pathway through suffering into His very presence!

➤ Where are we in the context of **Chapter 10**?

As believer-priests...

Who have complete confidence to enter into the most holy place... (10:19)

By means of wrath-satisfying blood of Jesus.... (10:20)

On the basis of the sinless mediation of our great high priest and ruler over us as God's people... (10:21)

We take bold action to...

DRAW NEAR to God's holy presence with sincere hearts in the full assurance of faith (10:22)

and

HOLD UNSWERVINGLY to this hope we profess, because God is a faithful promise keeper! (10:23)

➤ There are 3 things we are told to hold fast to in the Book of Hebrews and they are all interrelated:

HOPE > CONFIDENCE > CONFESSION

Hebrews 6:11, 19; 10:35-39

Three Questions for Holding Fast to Our Hope

1. What Is the HOPE We Profess and Hold Fast to as Believer-Priests?

NAS "Let us hold fast to **the confession of our hope**"

NET "And let us hold unwaveringly **to the hope that we confess**"

NIV "Let us hold unwaveringly to **the hope we profess.**"

NLT "Let us hold tightly without wavering to **the hope we affirm,**"

Four Glorious Aspects to the Hope We Profess as Believer-Priests

- Our hope is the PROMISES of the New Covenant being fulfilled by Jesus' blood. (8:6-13; 10:15-22)
- Our hope is the PRIESTHOOD of Jesus functioning on our behalf. (10:19-22; 3:6)
- Our hope is the PRIVILEGE of entering God's holy presence with the full assurance of faith. (7:19; 11:1; 6:19)
- Our hope is the PROSPECT God's unshakeable Kingdom coming to this earth and fully entering into its rest. (1:8; 12:21-29)

| In the Book of Hebrews This Unshakeable Coming Kingdom Is Also Called... | |
|--|--|
| A Promised City <i>Hebrews 11:10; 13:14; see also Revelation 21:1-27</i> | A Promised Rest <i>Hebrews 4:1-11; see also Revelation 21:4-8; 22:1-5</i> |
| A Promised Country <i>Hebrews 11:13-16; see also Revelation 21:3</i> | A Promised Assembly = Church + Israel <i>Hebrews 12:22-23; see also Revelation 21:9-14</i> |

2. What Might Cause Us as Believer-Priests to WAVER in Holding Fast to This Hope?

"Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering"

- What might cause us to waver in holding fast to our profession?

- 1) **PERSISTING** in willful sin (*10:26-31; 3:12; 12:15-17*)
- 2) **ONGOING** suffering (*10:32*)
- 3) **INCREASING** persecution (*10:33-34*)
- 4) **DRIFTING** into apathy (*2:1-4; 5:12*)

- What happens when we choose to waver and not hold fast?

We **throw away** our confidence of draw nearing to God! (*10:35*)

We **shrink back** from making our confession/profession public! (*10:36-39*)

We **fall away** from the promised hope of salvation! (*3:12-15; 6:4-6, 11-12*)

- What happens we refuse to waver and choose to persevere in holding fast?

We prove **"we are members of God's house."** (*3:6*)

We prove **"we have become partakers of Christ."** (*3:14*)

We **"realize the full assurance of hope until the end, we become imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises."** (*6:11-12*)

We **"hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm to the end."** (*3:6*)

3. Why Should We as Believer-Priests NEVER Waver in Holding Fast to Our Profession of Hope?

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;" Hebrews 10:23

- God is a faithful **Promise-Maker** who cannot lie.

"Now we desire each of you to demonstrate the same diligence for the full assurance of your hope until the end, so that you won't become lazy but will be imitators of those who inherit the promises through faith and perseverance.

Because God wanted to show his unchangeable purpose even more clearly to the heirs of the promise, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain. Jesus has entered there on our behalf as a forerunner, because he has become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." Hebrews 6:11-12, 17-20

- God is a faithful **Promise-Keeper**, who can be trusted to come through for His glory and our good in the end!

"And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they would not be made perfect.

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." Hebrews 11:39-12:3

**God's Promise-Keeping Is Greater than Our Present Tribulation and Future Persecution!
So Let Us Hold Unwaveringly to the Hope We Profess All the Way to the End, Because It Will Be Worth it.
God the Father Guarantees It by the Blood of His Son and the Power of His Spirit in You!**