

## Hebrews 10:26-39 – Grace Insulting sin (Part III)

Intro: Let's analyze and reflect today on some further observations/remarks about Vs 26-39:

- a. Under the Mosaic Covenant (MC) there was an unintentional/intentional paradigm for sin with death penalties for the latter and forgiveness/restoration provisions for former.
- b. Under MC, intentional sins against most of the Decalogue deserved death; unintentional sins are committed seemingly without knowledge/ awareness/ known/willing purpose to transgress.
- c. God prescribed death for intentional vs provisions for forgiveness/restoration for unintentional; there's a correlation here with evangelical doctrine of sin but not exact correspondence.
- d. The correlation helps illuminate the nature of sin in seeing that we sin even unintentionally and still need forgiveness, but may also proceed to intentional sins for which we are judged more severely.
- e. Under the MC, there's no death penalty for violations of 10<sup>th</sup> commandment or the often ignored/unknown/unwilling sins of concupiscence or lack of conformity to God's law at the level of desires/inclinations/affections. This is worthy of eternal death before God's justice.
- f. Case in point: In Paul/Saul (saint/sinner) seems like there was a level of unknown sin at level of 10<sup>th</sup> commandment/concupiscence/sinful desires/inclinations, or unbelief at the level of inward corruption Paul/Saul needed to repent from unto the grace of Christ to be saved from death.
- g. The Spirit of Grace/Christ enlightened Paul/Saul at this profound level so he could see the damning root of his unknown sin/condition/corruption and thus come to confess his actual sins in light of such a state for which only grace in Christ can avail.
- h. Abiding or remaining in actual sins without ever repenting unto Christ can only happen if grace for unknown sins/concupiscence/corruption of the flesh is never truly known, embraced, and confessed for what it is and needs, Christ!
- i. Hence, willful/intentional/presumptuous sin lies in the unbelief and offense in light of Gospel truth for the soul that hears and receives superficially without ever grasping the need of grace for both actual sins and the often unknown/ignored root of corruption whence it proceeds.
- j. Another example: David prayed – deliver me from unknown sin and presumptuous sin so that I may be delivered of great transgression and be blameless; only truly and ultimately in Christ!
- k. Ultimate unbelief or rebellion against God's knowledge turning to idolatry lies at the heart of our flesh in affections, thoughts, and deeds. The stubborn sinful rebellion of the sinner that increasingly slips away from God's provision and confidence in Christ thus overcome by ultimate idolatry and all manner of wickedness reveals the willful sin of apostasy or grace insulting sin.
- l. The church is warned against such sin by abiding/persevering in the confidence/faith of the beginning through continuing to look unto our everlasting inheritance in Christ in the midst of trials/sufferings/temptations.
- m. Thus, our holy vocation to love and serve for the sake of Christ is strengthened as well as our saving witness before and to the world of the enduring reality, power, and victory of our faith.