

An Earnest Plea!

Hebrews 3:1-13

THE BIG IDEA: The Christian life involves endurance

A. The Proof of a genuine Christian

Colossians 1: 22 he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, 23 if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard

I John 2: 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.

Hebrews 13: 20 Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, 21 equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

B. The Warning given to professing Christians

"The best of saints have need to be cautioned against the worst of evils" –John Owen

C. The Practice that must take place among Christians

"Sin comes to us, taps us on the shoulder or tugs at our shirttail and whispers in our ear: "You deserve better than what God has provided. He's holding out on you. You deserve to feel good about yourself. I'll affirm you in a way no one else can. Why live in misery any longer? Come to me. I'll give you a sense of power you've never known before. I'll expand your influence. I'll fill your heart with a sense of accomplishment. I'll nourish your soul. You've never had a physical rush like the one I've got in store for you. Obeying God is boring. It's a pain. He's always telling you to do stuff that's difficult and burdensome and inconvenient or ordering you to forsake the few things that really bring you happiness. Come on. You've only got one life. Obedience is ugly. My way is fun. My way feels good." -Sam Storms