

Sermon series: *Reminders for a Hard Season*

6/11/23 “Beware of the Trap,” Hebrews 10:22-39, NLT

INTRODUCTION: when I waited in hope for Penny’s return ’85, what I did & didn’t do.... Similarly, we wait in hope now...

MAIN IDEA: I will hold to my hope in Jesus without wavering. [*without wavering: Inflexible, unbending, steady. Can open door to doubt, enemy’s lies, old ways.*] How do I hope without wavering? I will do these four things:

**I. First, I will keep coming to Jesus (22)**

A. boldly...

1. Fully, trusting Him, conscience clean
2. Accepted, loved, cherished, desired

B. to Him through prayer...in the throne room

C. through His word (Bible)...His spoken word to me

**ILLUSTRATION:** person stopped reading, praying... addiction

**II. Second, I will seek out my brothers & sisters (24-25)**

A. to stir them to acts of love (*agape*) & good works (24)

**motivate:** to incite, provoke [from *paroxysm*, from which we get the same word, meaning a fit or attack or a sudden outburst]

1. by sharing stories & needs
2. by my own acts of love & good works

B. to meet [a gathering together in 1 place] with them

(25)...worship, fellowship, discipleship

**Neglect:** to desert, to leave; to abandon

1. some will quit, love God less by loving others less
2. we’re to encourage one another because Day nears

**encourage** [*parakaleo*]: [similar to *paraklete*/H. Spirit, called to one’s side, aid] to warn, exhort, invite, (be of good) comfort –Strong’s

**ILLUSTRATION:** Block party... welcome guests, initiate conversation, ask ?s, listen to, pray with

**III. Third, I will stop deliberately sinning (26-31)**

**Luke 11:35, NLT:** Make sure that the light you think you have is not actually darkness.

A. not perfection (see last week’s... walking in light)

**EX:** Moses, Elijah, David, Peter

B. deliberate... hardening vs. God... I want it more than God

1. trampling on Jesus (29)
2. disrespecting His blood (29)
3. insulting & disdain (outraging) Holy Spirit (29)

C. bringing God’s judgment (27)

**terrible** [*phoberos*] 27: frightful

1. hell’s fire... for His enemies
2. He will pay back, revenge (30)

**ILLUSTRATION:** when lust rises, I love Jesus more; when I’m angry with someone, I love Jesus more than my anger

**IV. Finally, I will remember my early walk with Jesus (32-34)**

A. faithfulness, despite suffering (32), with joy, holding onto His promises (34)... John McM arrested

B. when I helped others who suffered (33b)...

C. when I felt greatly for others who suffered (34a)...

**ILLUSTRATION:** when I had simple faith... forgave because He said to, visited the sick & imprisoned

**CONCLUSION:**

Doing these things, I am able to trust in the Lord confidently, and patiently endure while doing His good will.

**ALTAR:** Backslidden? Wavering?