

THE COST OF DENYING YOUR FAITH

Hebrews 10:26-31, p. 973

- I. A BELIEVER WHO LATER DENIES THE FAITH MAY FACE GOD'S EARTHLY JUDGMENT (HEBREWS 10:26-27).
 - A. Their doctrine: Those who embrace the gospel, but later reject it defiantly, have denied the only way to be saved (10:26; 1 Timothy 1:19-20; 2 Timothy 2:18-19).
 - = Believers – “If we...” (26); “sanctified” (29); “His people” (30).
 - B. Their discipline: Apostate believers may face earthly consequences for sin (10:27).

- II. APOSTATE BELIEVERS ARE LIKE DEFIANT JEWS UNDER MOSES WHO WERE PUNISHED BY DEATH (10:28-29).
 - A. Some defiant Israelites died in judgment by God (28).
 - Nadab and Abihu - Lev. 10:1-2; Sons of Korah – Num. 16:35; Idolators – Deut. 17:1-7; Achan Judges 7:25).
 - B. Believers who later deny Christ and the cross that saved them also deserve God's punishment (29).
 1. Trampled the Son of God = Denying who Christ is.
 2. Unholy thing... sanctified = Treated Christ's death as if was worthless, although Christ actually saved them.
 3. Insulted the Holy Spirit who graciously saved them.

- III. GOD HAS THE RIGHT TO PUNISH HIS CHILDREN (HEBREWS 10:30-31).
 - A. God has the right to judge believers (10:30; Deut. 32:35-36).
 - “Sin unto death” (1 John 5:16; 1 Corinthians 11:30).
 - B. It is a dreadful thing to face God's judgment (31).