

# The Warnings in Hebrews

“I urge you, dear brothers and sisters, to pay attention to what I have written in this brief exhortation”  
**Hebrews 13:22**

(“...bear with this word of exhortation...” NASB)

(“I appeal to you...” NKJV)

**Exhortation:** an address or communication emphatically urging someone to do something

**synonyms:** [urging](#) · [encouragement](#) · [persuasion](#) · [pressure](#) · [warning](#) · [entreaty](#) · [appeal](#) · [call](#) · [charge](#) · [injunction](#) · [admonition](#) · [warning](#)

## The Structure of Hebrews:

Some suggest that the letter is built around 5 warnings... At the least, along with every new revelation or thought, comes a warning that goes with it. This is life and death stuff! (**Deuteronomy 30:16**)

1. **Hebrews 2:1-3** – We must not take lightly such a message
2. **Hebrews 3:12-14, 4:1** – Some think this is one long exhortation (3:7-4:13) but I will simply concentrate on two parts of it
  - a. Since Jesus is greater than Moses, and though Moses was faithful as a servant in that house but Jesus is actually the Son over that house, “whose house we are.”
  - b. 3:12-14 – take care not to fall away and become hardened
  - c. 4:1 – let us truly enter God’s rest
3. **Hebrews 6:4-8** – This follows an exhortation to grow in Christ... don’t stay a child but jump all the way in!
  - a. Since Christ has offered the perfect sacrifice
  - b. Since He has been designated our High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek
4. **Hebrews 10:26-31** – This follows the teaching that the way into the Holy place is now open and we can actually “draw near” to God through the veil...
  - a. Since the way is open to all is provided for this new relationship with God, let us not ignore Him and continue on the path of selfish living
  - b. “It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God”
5. **Hebrews 12:25-29** – We have been given so much more than Israel ever imagined. They came to a mountain of fear in the wilderness, we have come to a holy city and to Jesus the mediator of a better covenant
  - a. Let us not refuse Him
  - b. A great shaking is coming (a sorting out) and only the things that cannot be shaken will remain!

**Summary:** As much as we may not like hearing it, this is life and death stuff! The God who created us created us for a purpose and He actually cares whether we arrive at that purpose. Adam and Eve could not stay in the garden after they had sinned. The Israelites could not enter the promised land since they refused to trust their deliverer. A person cannot have heaven on their own terms! God is, as C.S. Lewis put it, not a benevolent Grandfather in the sky that at the end of the day only cares if we all had a good time. He is our Father in heaven, holy, and loving us so much that He actually cares what we become. We could wish He didn't love us so much and would just let us be. I am afraid that is exactly what He will do some day if we do not listen to Him.