

**Rejection of Christ's sacrifice leaves nothing but insufficient sacrifices (vs. 26-31).**

*For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. 28 Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. 29 How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

**Persecution for Christ's sake is normal (vs. 32-35).**

*But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, 33 sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. 34 For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. 35 Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.*

2 Timothy 3:12-13; Matthew 5:11-12; John 16:33

Christians experience "struggles +."

**Identification with Christ requires endurance (vs. 36-39).**

*For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. 37 For, "Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay; 38 but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him." 39 But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.*

Habakkuk 2:4 "The just shall live by his faith" (NKJV)

Romans 1:17 "The just shall live by **faith**"

Galatians 3:11 "The **just** shall live by faith"

Hebrews 10:38 "The just shall **live** by faith"