

Hebrews: The Complete Work of Christ
The Fatal Error of Unbelief
Hebrews 3:7-19

Most cars come with warning lights that tell the operator when something is going wrong. It seems that in an effort to prevent self-diagnosis and repair, manufacturers went from gauges to warning lights to a generic check engine light. All of these systems are designed to help us fix a problem before it becomes a serious mechanical issue. The problem is that all too often, we ignore the warnings.

1. There is an innate sense of urgency to the gospel.

2. There is an innate sense of rebellion in human nature.

3. There is an innate sense of loss in a hardened heart.

4. There is an innate sense of journey in discipleship.

The people of Israel committed many sins during their wilderness wanderings, but only one prevented their entrance into the promised land, the sin of unbelief. Salvation is something that happens to us, but it is something that is happening to us as well. Salvation is fully realized when by faith we enter the land of promise. Without an enduring and persevering faith, we will not enter. But God promises that those who are faithful will persevere to the end.

For further consideration:

The author of Hebrews argues that one of the reasons Israel fell away was because their hearts were hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. Now would be a good time to consider whether there is any sin in your life that you entertain and refuse to put to death. Have you built relationships with fellow believers that will prevent the hardening of your heart to unbelief, relationships that will encourage you to endure in the faith? Are you encouraging someone to endure in the faith? How does your understanding of the new birth in Christ help us endure in the faith? Does the miracle of your new birth still stir your affections for Christ, or has it become routine and forgettable? How can the doctrine of perseverance give you assurance of your own faith walk? How might it cause you to question where you are with Christ?