

A dramatic background image featuring a dark, stormy sea with white-capped waves. The sky is filled with heavy, dark clouds, and several bright, jagged lightning bolts are visible, striking down towards the water. The overall mood is intense and powerful.

HEBREWS

PERSEVERANCE AND GODLINESS

8 steps of the “Path”

1. Faith
2. Excellence
3. Knowledge
4. Self-control
5. **Perseverance**
6. **Godliness**
7. Brotherly affection
8. Unselfish love

Perseverance is when we choose to trust God in every test, temptation, and trial

Godliness is when we work to align our character, ethics, worldview, and thought patterns with Christ

Be careful!

① neglect → drift

② unbelief / disobedience →
fall away / forsake (apostasy)

③ apathy → rejection of Jesus
and disqualification or death

④ deliberate, willful rejection →
loss of everything except eternal salvation



Situational holiness
comes with **salvation**

Personal holiness
must be **pursued**

Hebrews 12:14–16

- “Pursue peace” and “see to it” are **plural**; they are commands for the community
- The three “no ones” are **singular**. The church community is tasked with making sure that no individual wanders off the Path in any of these ways.

Hebrews 12:14–16

Three areas to watch out for in each other:

- “Comes short of the grace of God” – do not receive God’s help when we need it
- “Like a bitter root” – destroying those around us
- “Becomes an immoral or godless person like Esau” – prioritized short-term gratification over long-term (eternal) satisfaction

Hebrews 12:17

- It's not that repentance was unavailable to Esau; he chose hatred over repentance
- “Rejected” means “to reject after careful evaluation and determined to be worthless”

Question

*What are you hanging onto in this life
that could be costing you God's blessings
and your inheritance now and in eternity?*

Hebrews 12:18–21

- The Israelites experience at Mount Sinai was truly terrifying
- The first century Hebrews never saw that and did not realize what returning to that system really meant

Hebrews 12:22–24

- This is what they were supposed to look forward to
- “assembly and congregation” means “the festal gathering and assembling”; there’s a sense of joy and celebration built into the word

Hebrews 12:25–26

- This is the second part of the warning: don't refuse God!
- “refuse” means to reject or decline; here it means to look at God in all his glory and goodness and holiness – to hold up the blood of Christ – and say, “Thanks but no thanks; I can do better than this!”

Hebrews 12:27–29

- All believers will live with him, but only those who endure “will also reign with him” (2 Tim 2:11–13)
- This isn’t a salvation passage; it’s a faithfulness passage

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③ apathy → rejection of Jesus
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④ deliberate, willful rejection →
loss of everything except eternal salvation

⑤ refusing even to listen to God → bitterness

Question

*What are you hanging onto in this life
— something you think is worth more than your
relationship with Jesus — that could be costing you
everything of true value both now and in eternity?*

The background of the image is a dramatic, dark scene of a stormy sea under a heavy, dark sky. Multiple bright, jagged lightning bolts are visible, striking down from the clouds. The water in the foreground is dark and turbulent, with white-capped waves. The overall mood is intense and powerful.

HEBREWS

PERSEVERANCE AND GODLINESS

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