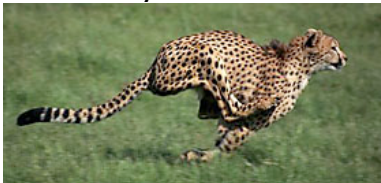


**THE BOOK OF HEBREWS**  
Chapter 10 Part 2 Verses 23-39  
**“You Have Need of Endurance”**

It is interesting that the Cheetah survives on the African plains by running down its prey.

The big cat is truly built for speed! Virtually, almost every part of its body is adapted in some way to maximize running speed.



Special paw pads and non-retractable claws provide great traction.

Large nostrils and lungs provide quick air intake;

A long, fluid, greyhound-like body is streamlined over light bones.

Small collarbones and vertical shoulder blades help lengthen the stride.

The tail acts as a rudder for quick turning plus the eye is of an elongated shape, giving the cheetah a sharp, wide-angle view of its surroundings.

The spine works as a spring for the powerful back legs to give the cheetah added reach for each step.

But the great speed is very taxing on the Cheetah.

The top speed, 71 miles per hour, can usually be maintained for only 200–300 yards.

Despite being built for speed, A Cheetah in Full sprint. Can last only about 20 seconds.

The reason, it has a disproportionately small heart that causes the Cheetah to tire quickly.

**I think many of us who are living for Jesus, believe that our race to finish faithful until Jesus comes for us, it similar to that of the Cheetah.**

**“Get there quickly...”**

We seem to expect of ourselves and each other, that we should already be like Jesus in all of our behavior and attitudes.

**The truth is, we are like the Cheetah, quick bursts for **20 seconds** or so, then we want to quit.**

When we find that we are not becoming like Jesus quite as fast as we had hoped or expected, we want to give up or stop trying.

- ⊕ **Worse**, when someone that we know has claimed to know Jesus and be living for Him behaves badly, or makes a mistake in their life, we Gossip against them, condemn them and sometimes feel they are not even saved at all.

**The reason? Like the cheetah, We have not yet developed the heart that we need to have endurance to wait and work through our struggles, be patient with people, and to finish the race.**

- ⊕ **We want patience in everything**, just as long as we GET IT RIGHT NOW!
- ⊕ **We want Patience as long as we are struggling**, but we don't want to be patient with other people when they are growing and struggling in their walk with the Lord.

A man's car stalled at a traffic light that had just turned green.

Despite all of his efforts, the engine would not start.

All of the cars behind him immediately began to honk their horns at him in impatience.

The man got out of his car and walked back to the first car in the line of cars behind him that were honking their horns at him...

He said to the driver of that car: ***"I'm sorry, but I can't seem to get my car started, If you will go up there and give a try at starting my car, I will stay here and honk your horn for you!"***

### **James 1:3**

knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

It is through all of your trials and struggles that you are going through right now, that the Lord is teaching you the exact same things that Jesus learned Himself, Suffering produces ENDURANCE, PATIENCE AND HUMILITY.

- ⊕ **We all have great need** of Endurance, Patience and Humility.
- ⊕ **There is no other way** to develop these 3 other than suffering.

Just like that Cheetah, that is great at the Quick sprint, but doesn't have the heart for endurance, we try to run this race we are in called "**Life**" as Sprinters...

The truth is, the race we are in, is not a Sprint to the finish line, but a Marathon, that requires endurance.

The theme of the last part of Hebrews 10, is that of “*Having endurance*”, **so that we can finish this race we are in to finish with Jesus.**

### **1 Corinthians 9:24 Paul Said:**

Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? **Run in such a way that you may win.**

**This is the way Hebrews 10, verse 23 begins...**

### **Hebrews 10**

23 **Let us hold fast** the confession of our hope **without wavering**, for He who promised **is faithful**.

In these last days that we live in, just before Jesus returns for His church, we are surrounded by a number of different things that have the goal of getting us distracted and discouraged from following Jesus with all of our heart.

- ⊖ **The TV and the Movies** compete for our precious time in the Word of God and Prayer.
- ⊖ **There is a growing hatred** of people who really love the Lord, just as Jesus said it would happen before He comes.

### **Matthew 10:22**

And you will be hated by all for My name’s sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved

**So, in chapter 10 of Hebrews, the Holy Spirit is reminding us this morning to “*Hold Fast the confession of our hope without wavering...*”**

**Thomas Jefferson said that “*In matters of Style, Swim with the current, in matters of principle, stand like a Rock*”**

- ⊖ **Simply put**, Most of life is about the individual style and opinions of people, which are not worth getting upset over.
- ⊖ **In these areas of individual style** and opinions, just kick back and stay clear of the arguments and heated discussions, which only cause divisions.
- ⊖ **But in matters of Principle**, those things that really matter, God’s Word, His Love for us, Our Love for each other, **Stand firm...**
- ⊖ **What is missing today** from the life of the Christian, is what the Early church knew so well...

### **Hebrews 10**

24 And let us **consider one another** in order to stir up love and good works,

This is one of the things that is missing in our lives today as believers in Jesus.  
**“Considering One Another”**

- ☞ **We have become a** “Me First” Generation, and because of the last days we live in, even those who say they love Jesus have become a “Me First” generation.

### **I hear all the time from Christians:**

- ☞ *“I am not being fed at that church, My needs are not being met at that church.”*
- ☞ *“I can’t receive from that pastor...”*
- ☞ *“I am not being ministered to...”*
- ☞ *“I don’t like the way the pastor or the elders run that church”*
- ☞ *“I need to feel like I am a part of that church...”*

What is the common theme that seems to run through the hearts of believers today is that **“I need something for me”**

### **Mark 9:35**

And Jesus sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all

Jesus taught us by example that as those who claim to believe in and follow Him, we do not exist to continually take in for ourselves, We exist to take in, then Give our to others in service to them

### **Philippians 2:3-8**

3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but **in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.**

4 Let each of you look out **not only for his own interests,** but **also for the interests of others.**

5 **Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,**

6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it something to be understood, that He was be equal with God,

7 but **made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant,** and coming in the likeness of men.

8 And being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself** and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

**Jesus did not suffer and die for you so that for the rest of your life you would spend it trying to take in for yourself.**

- ☞ **Jesus saved us** so that He could flow through us, His Ministry to people.
- ☞ **Listen,** we exist as Jesus Church not to occupy a 6 inch padded chair, listen to a great praise Band on a wonderful sound system, Fellowship in a modern and comfortable Christian Coffee house.
- ☞ **We exist as Jesus Church,** to do what Jesus would do, GIVE OUR LIVES TO EACH OTHER IN MINISTRY.

## Did you know that the day that Jesus saved you, He put you into the ministry?

- ☞ **Most people think** that only the Pastors and Elders and Deacons are in the Ministry.
- ☞ **The reality is**, Every person that claims to know Jesus as Lord and Savior is **ALREADY IN THE MINISTRY**.

If there is someone here that needs prayer or encouragement, love or money, clothes or housing, If someone needs to be visited, or needs to be brought back to the church, **IT IS YOUR OBLIGATION TO DO IT!**

Here are 26 Verses that really nail it on the head, what Jesus has called us to:

### [Ephesians 4:7](#)

But **to each one of us grace was given** according to the measure of Christ's gift.

### [Romans 12:5](#)

so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

### [Romans 12:10](#)

Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;

### [1 Corinthians 12:25](#)

... that the members should have the same care for one another.

### [Ephesians 4:2](#)

with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

### [Ephesians 4:25](#)

...we are members of one another.

### [Ephesians 4:32](#)

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another...

### [Ephesians 5:19](#)

speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

### [Ephesians 5:21](#)

submitting to one another in the fear of God.

### [Colossians 3:9](#)

Do not lie to one another...

### [Colossians 3:13](#)

bearing with one another, and forgiving one another... even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

**Colossians 3:16**

...teaching and admonishing one another ...

**1 Thessalonians 5:11**

Therefore comfort each other and edify one another...

**Hebrews 3:13**

but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today,"...

**Hebrews 10:24**

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,

**James 4:11**

Do not speak evil of one another, brethren...

**James 5:9**

Do not grumble against one another, brethren...!

**James 5:16**

Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another...

**1 Peter 1:22**

... love one another fervently with a pure heart,

**1 Peter 3:8**

... all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous...

**1 Peter 4:8**

And above all things have fervent love for one another...

**1 Peter 4:9**

Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.

**1 Peter 4:10**

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another...

**1 Peter 5:5**

... be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility...

**1 Peter 5:14**

Greet one another...

**1 John 3:11**

... that we should love one another,

**How many of those 26 verses say “Find a church that meets your needs...”**

- ⊞ **Now please understand**, I am not saying that you do not have needs and that we are not to try and meet your needs.
- ⊞ **What I am saying** is that as the church **we have gotten it all wrong in how those needs that we all have, get taken care of.**

**The way all of your needs are going to get met, is by giving out of yourself.**

Let me give you an example:

- ⊞ **On Friday nights**, we open up the Hebrews Café, **not so** that we can come and have Coffee and Pie, but so that we can have the opportunity to fellowship together.
- ⊞ **Now most of us would admit**, by the time Friday comes along, in our flesh, we do not really want to come down here.
- ⊞ **We are tired by Friday**, and what we think we really need is to just stay home and relax.

**What we have all discovered is that when we make ourselves come down here and become a part of the fellowship that is happening on Friday nights, We are Blessed, Relaxed, and Greatly loved and encouraged.**

- ⊞ **You see**, The Lord created us for fellowship together.
- ⊞ **When we partake** of fellowship together, **we are Refreshed.**
- ⊞ **When we come here**, there is always someone who needs to be encouraged or prayed for or there is always a good subject that we discuss.

Last Friday, one of the ladies came in and apparently another lady that was here sensed that she was in need of some love and encouragement.

- ⊞ **So**, what happened?
- ⊞ **Some of the ladies**, all on there own, took this lady into the back room and prayed for her.
- ⊞ **That is ministry!**
- ⊞ **Now, if we asked those ladies** that participated in that how it felt, they would all tell you what a blessing it was **for them!**.

**You see, if you really want to get all of your emotional, Spiritual, and Physical needs met, show up here every time the doors are open, and give out of yourself.**

- ⊞ **Come in with the attitude:** *“I wonder what the Lord wants to do here tonight?”*
- ⊞ *“I wonder how the Lord might want **to use me tonight** to bless or encourage someone else?”*

**Which brings us to the very next verse in Hebrews 10:**

## **Hebrews 10**

25 **not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together**, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

The attitude that says *“I don’t need to become a part of a Church body, I can love and serve the Lord on my own”*, is wrong!

- ☞ **“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together...”**
- ☞ **We were created by Jesus**, for fellowship **with each other**.
- ☞ **Each one of you** is a crucial and irreplaceable part of Jesus Church.
- ☞ **When you are not here**, the entire Church suffers, because there are things that you can do that no one else can do.
- ☞ **And you suffer the loss** of being blessed and used by the Lord to touch someone else, and in turn, by touching someone else, you find your own fulfillment and satisfaction.

**Listen, Jesus did not save us so that we would then begin to build our own little kingdoms and homes and comfort and security zones.**

Jesus said:

## **Matthew 6:10**

Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven

**Not “My kingdom come, my will be done.**

**There is nothing wrong with building a home, a job a family, all of these things are necessary for life.**

- ☞ **Right now** I have 2 bathrooms torn apart in my own house and I am trying to finish them.
- ☞ **But I need to be careful** to not let the need to finish them, be the consuming part of my life.
- ☞ **What is to be** the consuming part of our life and the first priority of all our lives, is to seek fellowship with each other at every opportunity possible.

And if we do not maintain this constant contact and fellowship together, here is what can happen...

**Paul changes from a different point in Endurance and “Holding Fast”, to the area of falling away from Jesus completely...**

## **Hebrews 10**

26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

**This is another of those difficult verses that have been misinterpreted many times.**

- ⊕ **The Key here** is “*After we have received the knowledge of the truth*”.
- ⊕ **What sin** is there that a Christian can commit that there is no longer any sacrifice for?

**Hint:** it is the same sin that is called the “*Unpardonable Sin*”.

- ⊕ **There is only one sin** that cannot be forgiven.
- ⊕ **The rejection of Jesus** and His Cross and the payment for all of your sins.
- ⊕ **The Cross** is the only way that God has provided for human beings to become right in His sight.

**So, the question is, “How does this apply to verse 26?”**

- ⊕ **If a believer**, someone who has professed a faith in Jesus and His sacrifice for their sins, **turns their back on Jesus and walks away...**
- ⊕ **Verse 26:** “*There no longer remains a sacrifice for their sins...*”

**Now if you have been taught the doctrine “Once Saved, Always Saved...”, then you might have a problem with this idea.**

- ⊕ **I also believe** that the Bible teaches, “*Once a person is saved, they are saved forever, they cannot Loose their Salvation...*”
- ⊕ **Question: How does any person become saved?**
- ⊕ **By an act of their own free will**, they accept Jesus sacrifice on the Cross as payment for their sins, and ask Jesus to forgive them, and come into their life.
- ⊕ **Did anyone force them** to be saved? Of course not.
- ⊕ **So then**, will God force anyone to remain saved, if as an act of their own free will they want to reject Jesus and walk away from Him? **Of course not.**

Now the argument can be made by some: “*Well that means that person was never really saved...*”

- ⊕ **Verse 26** is based on the fact that a person has “*Received a knowledge of the Truth*”, they knew and understood what Jesus has done for them on the Cross, and they accepted it...
- ⊕ **Sorry**, but that means they were saved!
- ⊕ **So, for me**, according to the Bible, “Once Saved, Always Saved, you cannot Loose your salvation, but you can choose to walk away from Jesus and Give up your salvation...”

**If that were not true, then why did Jesus say:**

### **John 15:4-6**

4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As **the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine**, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

5 “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

6 **If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.**

### **Matthew 10:22**

... But he who **endures to the end** will be saved.

Now, of course, you are free to disagree with me, but every opinion we form must come from what the Bible teaches, not from church tradition or something we have been taught or believed for many years..

- ☞ **And...No disagreement** should ever cause us to break our fellowship together...Love is the reason we exist, so we learn to disagree, but still love each other and remain together.

### **Hebrews 10**

27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.

Who are the “*Adversaries of God*”, those that have rejected His Son!

### **Hebrews 10**

28 Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.

In the Old Testament, a person could be convicted of a Capital Crime like Murder, based on the eye witness testimony of 2 credible witnesses.

- ☞ **These last verses** in Hebrews chapter 10, are a reminder for every person on the earth that **God is a God of Love**, but He is also a **God of Justice who will punish all sin.**

When Rosie O’Donnell stood before the television cameras last week and said that what prompted her to fly to San Francisco and married her Girlfriend Kathy Carpenter, was that “*The sitting president of the United States said the most Vile and offensive thing she had ever heard when he declared that a marriage is between a Man and a Woman..*”

- ☞ **Rosie, your relationship** with Kathy Carpenter is a Vile and offensive thing to the Living God, and he will Judge that sin.
- ☞ **But do you know what?** Rosie O’Donnell’s sin is not greater than any sin you have ever done.
- ☞ **And the Lord** will judge all sin.
- ☞ **He will either take all of your sin** and put it on Jesus and His Cross, or He will put all of your sin to your own account and you will answer for it.

**What it all comes down to, is that there is no difference between me and Rosie O'Donnell, Except Jesus, and what I did with Him...**

- ⊕ **Based upon** what you do with the person of Jesus Christ, will rest your final judgment in your life.
- 1. **If you believe** what God said, that Jesus is ***“The Way The Truth, and The Life, that no person comes to the Father without Jesus”***, then based on that faith, God saves you.
- 2. **He saves you by transferring** all of your own guilt for your sins, upon Jesus when He was beaten and tortured, and then Crucified.
- 3. **When Jesus was dying**, he was taking your place, all judgment for your sins, was completed at the death of Jesus on the Cross.

**But if, as an act of your own free will you reject Jesus and His Cross...**

### **Hebrews 10**

29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has **trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing**, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

**I believe that this the most frightening verse of scripture in the Bible.**

- ⊕ **When I read this verse I tremble** at the thought of any person finishing their life, and never having accepted Jesus offer of forgiveness for their sin.
- ⊕ **I shudder to think** what it will be like for this person when they stand to give an account for their life and are asked *“Why didn't you accept Jesus sacrifice for your sin?”*

The Father gave that which was most precious to Him, His only son...And He takes it as a personal offense when someone Treats the Blood of Jesus Sacrifice as **“A Common thing”**.

- ⊕ **In the Greek Language**, the phrase *“A Common Thing”*. Comes from the word **“Koinos”** (koy-nos')
- ⊕ **Literally**, it means to treat Jesus sacrifice and His Blood and Life that was poured out as an **“Unclean thing”**.
- ⊕ **Something Dirty**, rotten, unworthy, of no Value.

When I watched Mary in the Mel Gibson movie **“The Passion”** in one scene where Jesus was so beaten from the scourging that his flesh was hanging from His body.

- ⊕ **Jesus was trying to carry His Cross** outside of the city to the place where they were going to Crucify Him.
- ⊕ **Jesus fell**, and then the scene flashed back to a memory of Mary when Jesus was just a small boy and he fell and hurt Himself, and Mary ran to her little boy to pick him up and hold him and comfort his wounds.

- ☞ **Here, as Jesus** had been so beaten already that He couldn't carry the Cross any more, Mary ran to Jesus, and tried again to comfort her little boy.

My mother told me last year, **"You might be 46 years old, but you are still my little Boy"**

- ☞ **Imagine the outrage** that the Father feels when someone rejects **the beautiful and precious sacrifice that Jesus made on the Cross** and the Beating and punishment that He took for every person to ever live on the earth.

### **Hebrews 10**

29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has **trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing**, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

30 For we know Him who said, **"Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord**. And again, "The LORD will judge His people."

31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

**But know this, the Heart of the Father is not toward vengeance, or punishment towards us, what He really wants to do is forgive us through Jesus Sacrifice.**

### **Ezekiel 33:11**

... "As I live," says the Lord GOD, "I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die..."

### **2 Peter 3:9**

The Lord is ...longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

### **Hebrews 10**

32 But **recall the former days** in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings:

33 partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated;

34 for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, **knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves** in heaven.

Paul says, **"Remember when you are in a trial that seem overwhelming that this trial is not going to last forever, your life is not going to last here on Earth much longer..."**

- ☞ **That these struggles and difficulties** are just a Speck in the greatness of time without end when we will be with the Lord forever.

### **Hebrews 10**

35 **Therefore do not cast away your confidence**, which has great reward.

36 **For you have need of endurance**, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

**Do not give up in your confidence in the Lord, for in a short time, it will have a great reward...**

... *“So that after you have done the will of God...”*

☞ **Did you know** that whatever is happening in your life right now, good or bad, is the *“Will of God”* for you?

**So keep running the race of staying faithful to Jesus, staying close to Him, Abiding in Him, Trusting Him through this great race you are in...**

The magazine “Runners World” published an article in 1991 about Beth Anne DeCiantis and her attempt at qualifying for the 1992 Olympic Trials.

According to Olympic rules, a female runner must complete the 26 mile race in less than 2 hours and 45 minutes to compete in the Olympics.

Beth started out strong, but began having trouble at about the 23 mile mark.

As she reached the final straightaway, she had been running for 2 hours and 43 minutes.

She had just 2 minutes to finish the race and qualify for the Olympics.

200 yards from the finish line she stumbled and fell.

Dazed and exhausted, she remained on the ground for 20 seconds, the crowd yelling to her, “Get up, Get up”,

The clock now at 2 hours and 44 minutes, with just 5 yards to the finish line, Beth Anne staggered to her feet and began walking.

At 5 yards from the finish line, with just 10 seconds to go, she fell again, now crawling she crossed the finish line on her hands and knees, Her time? 2 hours 44 minutes 57 seconds!

### **Hebrews 10**

37 “For yet a little while,  
And **He who is coming will come and will not tarry.**

38 Now **the just shall live by faith;**  
But if anyone draws back,  
My soul has no pleasure in him.”

39 But **we are not of those who draw back to perdition,** but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.