Hebrews 10:19-39

**Digging Deeper in the Word**

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***Hebrews 10:19–39*** (ESV)  
**19** Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, **20** by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, **21** and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **22** let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. **23** Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. **24** And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, **25** not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. **26** 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. **32** 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. **36** 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.

1. Give a brief review of the first half of Chapter 10.
2. Considering Heb 10:19, how did we enter the Holy Place prior to Yeshua? How do we enter it now? What is the significance of “the blood of Yeshua”?
3. In Heb 10:20, we are told that a “new and living way” was opened up through the curtain. Why is this called a **living** way? Compare also Heb 7:23-25.
4. The author seems to draw a parallel between the curtain and the body of Messiah when he says “through the curtain, this is, through the flesh”. Note Matt 27:50-51. How does this make sense?
5. Heb 10:22 starts out with “***let us draw near***”. How did people “draw near” to God prior to Yeshua and how is that different now? Consider the Hebrew verb **karav** meaning “to draw near” and its related noun.
6. Look at Heb 10:22, How do we again see in this verse that the Torah is a shadow of better things to come? What does it mean to have a “true heart”?
7. Read Ezek 36, especially Ezek 36:24-29. How does this fit in with Heb 10:22?
8. The author seems to shift focus beginning in Heb 10:22-23. It is as if he has been building up his arguments until this point, so he now has a foundation established to give them the instructions he wants to give. What is the main point of these verses? How is he wanting to direct his audience?
9. What is “the confession of our hope” in Heb 10:23?
10. Why might some of been neglecting to meet together, as stated in Heb 10:25? Why are verses 24-25 particularly important for these believers, given their context?
11. Consider Heb 10:26-27. What does this mean? How does it relate to the previous teaching that Yeshua’s sacrifice was once and for all time, covering all sins (past present and future)?
12. Heb 10:28-29 clarifies the argument of Heb 10:26-27 with another example of a **kal-v’chomer** (light and heavy) argument. What is that argument?
13. Look at Heb 10:29-30. The author is reminding his audience of how fearful they should be if they are disobedient to the God of the universe. Why is this perhaps even more important for us in our cultural context today?
14. Beginning with Heb 10:32-35, the author reminds them of their past. How is their past different from their present? Why do you think that may be? How is that similar for us? Look also at Rev 2:2-5 and Luke 7:36-50.
15. Heb 10:37 loosely quotes Habakkuk 2:2-4. What does “the righteous shall live by faith” mean in the context of how it was written in Habakkuk?
16. Heb 10:39 sums up the admonition of the author for this section of his letter. How is he encouraging his readers, and why is this important given their context?