

STEADFASTNESS IN THE FAITH
(Hebrews 13:7-9)

- I. Steadfastness MODELLED by LEADERSHIP (Heb. 13:7)
 - A. Commanded to “REMEMBER” our LEADERS
 - 1. Characterized as PREACHERS and TEACHERS
 - a. Includes PRESENTATION of the GOSPEL
 - b. Includes INSTRUCTION in all the WORD
 - 2. Possibly PASTORS both PAST and PRESENT (see KJV)
 - 3. Possibly APOSTLES and FOREBEARS (see Heb. 11)
 - B. Commanded to “CONSIDER the RESULT of their CONDUCT”
 - 1. Involves CAREFUL EXAMINATION
 - 2. Focuses on CONSISTENCY
 - a. Faithfully TAUGHT biblical TRUTH
 - b. Faithfully PRACTICED what they PREACHED
 - 3. Emphasizes practical EFFECT or eventual OUTCOME
 - a. Possibly including PERSECUTION and MARTYRDOM
 - b. Particularly PERSEVERANCE to the END
 - C. Commanded to “IMITATE” their FAITH
 - 1. Not to ADOPT their MANNERISMS or BEHAVIORS

2. But to REPRODUCE their FAITHFULNESS
- II. Steadfastness MANDATED by JESUS CHRIST (Heb. 13:8)
- A. The UNCHANGING CHARACTER of CHRIST
 1. Possibly refers directly to the MESSAGE of the GOSPEL
 - a. Jesus' PAST SACRIFICE: "yesterday"
 - b. Jesus' PRESENT INTERCESSION: "today"
 - c. Jesus' FUTURE CONSUMMATION: "forever"
 2. Possibly refers to Jesus' IMMUTABLE NATURE
 - a. Jesus' PRE-INCARNATION activity throughout the PAST: "yesterday"
 - b. Jesus' CONTINUING ministry in the PRESENT: "today"
 - c. Jesus' PERPETUAL ministry through the AGES: "forever"
 - B. The UNCHANGING CONTENT of the FAITH
 1. MAINTAINED in a consistent MESSAGE
 2. MODELLED in consistent LIVES
- III. Steadfastness MAINTAINED by GRACE (Heb. 13:9)
- A. The DANGER of COMPETING DOCTRINES (1 Tim. 4:6)
 1. Can DIVERGE from the truth (Acts 20:29-30; 2 Cor. 11:13-14)
 2. Can be FOREIGN to the truth (Rom. 16:17; Gal. 1:6-8)
 3. Can adopt LEGALISTIC FORMALITY (Col. 2:16)
 - B. The NECESSITY of GROWTH by GRACE