Beware the Drift

Joshua 23

"Beware the Drift" - No matter how godly and devoted one generation may be, the next one is always at risk
Judges 2:6-13

I. Remembrance of the Past (vs. 1-5)

"you yourselves have seen"
Sin is always the fruit of forgetting
As Christians, we need to remember, recall, and retell our common experiences of God's goodness
Psalm 103:2

II. Responsibility in the Present (vs. 6-11)

A. Give attention to God's Word (vs. 6)
God never blesses disobedience.
"all that is written"

B. Avoid pagan influence (vs. 7)
The key to fleeing idolatry is loving Christ more than the idol.

C. Attach yourself to God (vs. 8)
"hold fast" to the Lord (dabaq)
1. Holding fast is relational
Deuteronomy 13:4
2. Holding fast is a two-way hold **Psalm 63:8**
I cling to God knowing that He is already clinging to me.

D. Cultivate a deep affection for God (vs. 9-11)
"So… be very careful to love the Lord"
God doesn't just want obedience, He wants a love relationship.

III. Results in the Future (vs. 12-16)

A. Warning ahead (vs. 12-13)
"but, if you turn away and ally yourselves"
John Trapp – *"Sour and sweet make the best sauce: promises and warnings mingled serve to keep the heart in the best temper"*

B. God's faithfulness works both ways (vs. 14-16)
As surely as God has been faithful to bless their obedience under Joshua, He will be faithful to curse their later disobedience.
Hebrews 12:7

"Beware the Drift" is a real danger **Hebrews 2:1-3**

Though our enemies are different, the strategy for confronting them remains much the same:
We remember God's faithfulness in the past
We give attention to God's Word
We avoid pagan influence in our life
We attach ourselves to God
We cultivate a deep affection for our Lord in every way