

"LEST" in HEBREWS

In the KJV, our English word "lest" is used to translate 3 different Greek words:

1) **μὲ** ("MAY") = "NOT!", "no", "lest"; 2) **ἵνα μὲ** ("HINA MAY") = "that not", "so that not", "lest";

& 3) **μὲποτε** ("MAY-POTAY") = "lest at any time", "perhaps", "whether or not", "lest haply", "lest".

They are used to define a command and warning in each of the major judgement passages in Hebrews.

They also reveal the progression of a downward spiral away from God and toward greater consequences.

VERSE	COMMAND	"LEST"	WARNING	SYMPTOM
2:1	Give more earnest heed to the things we have heard...	μὲποτε	...we should drift away	Drift: Wander from the path
3:12	Take heed...	μὲποτε	...there be in you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God.	Depart Willingly: Leave the path deliberately
3:13	Exhort one another daily...	ἵνα μὲ	...any of you should be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin	Hardened: Blinded concerning the path
4:1	Let us fear...	μὲποτε	...a promise being left us of entering into His rest, any of you should come short of it	Come Short: Can't find the path or the goal
4:11	Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest	ἵνα μὲ	...any of you should fall after the same example of unbelief	Fall: Stumble because not on the path
6:11-12	Show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope to the end...	ἵνα μὲ	["that..not"]...be slothful ["lest you be slothful"]	Lazy: No longer care about the path
12:3	Consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself...	ἵνα μὲ	...ye be wearied and faint in your minds	Wearied and Faint: Too tired and weak to look for the path
12:13	Make straight paths for your feet...	ἵνα μὲ	...that which is lame be turned out of the way	Lame: Injured: cannot return to the path RESULTS IN:
12:15	Looking diligently...	μὲ	...any man fail the grace of God	Spiritual Bankruptcy
12:15	Looking diligently...	μὲ	...any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled	Social Bankruptcy
12:16	Looking diligently...	μὲ	...there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau...	Moral Bankruptcy