## "Let Us Consider" Hebrews 10:24-25 June 30, 2024

## I. What We're Commanded to Do

- A. We're to think hard about our fellow believers.
- B. We're to consider how we might stir them up:
  - 1. Stir them up to love that expresses itself in good works towards God and towards other Christians.
  - 2. "Stir up" is an intense Greek term that means "to rousingly inspire" even provoke!
- C. We can do this with our words.

**Hebrews 3:13** - But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

**Galatians 6:9** - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Acts 20:35 - ... "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

**Ephesians 4:29** - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

- D. We can do this by setting an example in how we carry ourselves.
- E. Sometimes this requires confrontation:
  - 1. But with an eye toward encouragement (strengthening).
  - 2. Remembering to distinguish principle from practice.

## II. When We're Commanded to Do It

- A. We can stir one another up whenever we're together.
- B. But the wording of vs. 25 ( $synag\bar{o}g\bar{e}$ ) puts an emphasis on when we gather for worship.
- C. *All* participants in worship play an active role.

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**Colossians 3:16** - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

D. Purposeful, stirring interaction can take place before and after worship too.

## III. Why We're Commanded to Do It Now

- A. The first readers of Hebrews were to give special attention to stirring up one another in light of the approaching "Day".
- B. While "Day" might be a reference to Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> coming, it's more natural to see it as the "Day" of Jerusalem's 70 AD destruction.
  - 1. Hebrews' readers would've known Jesus spoke of this 1<sup>st</sup> century tribulation as well as the signs that would lead up to it. (Matt. 24)
  - 2. With these signs in mind, they could see the "Day" approaching.
  - 3. That's why it was important for them to continue to stir one another to ongoing faithfulness in light of the looming crisis.
- C. While Jerusalem's destruction in 70 AD is behind us, we face the crisis of an increasingly godless culture.
  - 1. Our fellow believers need us to stir them up to love and good deeds.
  - 2. We very much need the same.