

Feast of Tabernacles

2021

Let Us Exhort One Another

As We See The Day Approaching!

I want to start today message in Hebrews 10:25 where it says: *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as we see the day approaching.”*

This verse is often quoted with the **“emphasis”** put on “forsaking the assembly.” But little “emphasis” (if any) is put on the part of “exhorting one another.”

Yet this “exhorting” (as I think we will see as we put this verse into context) has much to do with our eternal salvation.

Exhorting = strongly encourage or urge (someone) to do something.

Well what exactly is it that we are strongly urged to do to one another? And to do it **“all the more”** as we see the day approaching.

Now we don't have to go far to comprehend what is being spoken about here.

The previous verse 24 says: *“Let us consider one another to provoke unto Love and to good works.”*

“Provoke” here is Strongs #3947 = “incitement” (incitement normally means the action of provoking unlawful behavior, or urging someone to behave unlawfully.)

But here it means to provoke someone to do good, to refrain from unlawful behavior, (better put) refrain from sinning.

This is talking about encouraging one another to walk this earth “upright.”

The following verse 26 makes that clear:

“For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remained no more sacrifice for sins.”

This exhorting one another has to do with encouraging one another to “overcome”, to be “converted”. This exhorting one another is to help us comprehend the fact that “sinners” will not be allowed to enter the Coming Kingdom of God.

Whether we realize it or not, many in the church have been led astray by pulpits concerning the importance of overcoming, the importance of developing that Holy Righteous Character of the Father.

The command to: *“Be ye therefore perfect, as your Father in heaven is perfect.”* And *“Be ye Holy as your Father in heaven is holy”* are not just clever sayings, their commands. And those particular commands are being addressed to the elect.

Once we commit to our calling, and get ourselves baptized and hands, our goal is to overcome. We are called to become “Saints.” Scripture defines saints as: Pure - Sacred – Morally Blameless – Holy.

We live at the end of the age, when “smooth talk” is commonly preached from the pulpit. Let’s not entertain any “smooth talk.” We come into the church, and some start calling one another “saints.”

Paul says we have to “Tower UP” as we *“Becometh Saints.”*

As I often mention, our Creator always gives us the physical (which we humans understand quite well) so we can better understand the Spiritual (which we humans do not understand all that well.)

Last time I spoke here I mentioned how silver (which God relates to us in the Scriptures) how it is purified, how in order for it to become pure, all the impurities (in our case all the imperfections) have to be removed.

The way the silversmith does that is with heat. (our trials and tribulations) And he knows when all the impurities have been removed, when he can see his reflection in the silver. That’s what our Heavenly Father wants to see in all of us, His reflection.

This *“not forsaking assembling together and “exhorting” one another”* is Very important matter; it has to do with keeping our High Calling on the front burner. Keeping ourselves focused on the need to walk upright.

Verse 27 to 35 of Hebrews 10 goes on to say that not only will we lose our salvation if we continue to sin, but we will also face judgment, and the lake of fire.

Picking up in verse 36 in the NIV: *“You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. For In just a little while, He who is coming will come, and will not delay.” “But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who **shrinks back**.” But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith (Belief) and are saved.”*

Those who “shrink back” (Backsliding) will lose their salvation. That word “destroyed” (or “perdition” in the KJV) means: spiritual or eternal loss or ruin.

We have to be like sharks, most sharks cannot stand still, they have to always be moving forward to stay alive. (Definitely no moving backwards.)

We have to be very careful in these end times, because our biggest culprit to reaching our goal of overcoming, is man. Men in pulpits like to preach a lot of “smooth things” And many don’t realize it but they’re also good at mixing in some “damnable heresy”.

Heresy

Always have to be careful not to get our heresies mixed up. Heresy is not a bad thing. heresy is only a belief or teaching contrary to the regularly taught doctrines.

Paul was a preacher of heresy, and he was proud of it. (Acts 24:14)

It's "Damnable Heresy" that we have to be on guard against, Yet many in the cog rarely distinguish the difference. Pulpits have many (if not most) brethren afraid of anyone preaching any heresy.

Yet some damnable heresy is being taught right from their own pulpit, and many swallow it because they don't take the time to "search the Scriptures" "rightly divide the Word of Truth."

One large cog organization has a book out titled: "The Assurance of Salvation." it can make you feel real good as a Christian.... (But it's not good, because it's just smooth talk, with a pat on the back.)

It says that If you find yourself backsliding into some of your old sinful habits, not to worry because "everyone" does it. But no need to worry (the author says) because the Father has placed us into our Lord's hands, and our Lord says He will lose none.

(No need to worry about backsliding into our old sins from time to time.)

Brethren how will someone who has a drinking problem, or a gambling problem, or fornicator, ever overcome, when there being told its okay to backslide, and continue committing those sins from time to time?

Our Lord told them that he had healed, to go and sin no more, or a worse thing will come upon them.

Another minister teaches: "don't worry about your everyday sins because we will be sinning those sins right up to our change."

But you will not find that in Scripture. Scripture says "*The soul that sinneth, it shall die.*" "*Transgressors shall not inherit the Kingdom of God*".

(1 Corinthians 6:9) (Galatians 5:21)

I want to turn to and read (2 Peter 2:1-2) But in its proper tense.

*"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there (shall be false teachers among you?) NO (even as there **are** false teachers among you,) who privily (shall bring in damnable heresies?) NO (**have brought in** damnable heresies) even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.*

2Pe 2:2 *And many (not some, not few) But Many shall follow their “pernicious” ways; (Pernicious = spiritual loss, destruction, to destroy fully.) by reason of whom the way of truth (shall be evil spoken of?) NO (By reason of whom the way of truth IS evil spoken of.)*

Now I’m not here today to give a list of questionable doctrines, or push any of my beliefs on anyone. But I do want to rattle the cage of “**Complacency.**”

Complacency Brethren will not get us to the Kingdom of God.

The Kingdom of God is “Upstream” It requires a Fight, a Race. One cannot float or drift into the Kingdom of God.

Even with God’s Powerful Holy Spirit working in us, overcoming is not a walk in the park. But overcoming is required if we want to succeed at fulfilling our goal.

We need encouragement from one another, sometimes we need a “**Push**” to accomplish.

That push is where “*not forsaking the assembling of our selves together*”, and “*exhorting one another*” comes in to play.

(Exhorting one another can do Powerful Things.)

One day when Nehemiah (our eldest orphan at Sengera House) got home from school around 4pm and he told me that there was going to be race that day in the Town of Kisii, and that he wanted to enter. I asked him how much will it cost to participate, and can you even reach Kisii in time? His reply was: “the cost is \$20. And, if he moves quickly he could probably get there just in time. So I said okay.

Later that day he told me what happened, he said he got to Kisii just in time, signed his name on the entry form, paid the \$20, and hurried to the starting line.

He said he no sooner got there and the starting shot was fired. He said he ran faster than he ever ran in his entire life, and that he was ahead of all the other runners.

But as he was nearing the finish line, he started getting pains in his stomach, and was so tired, so exhausted, that he had to stop running.

But as he began slowing down **the crowd at the finish line saw him, and they began Yelling and Shouting: “Run Nehemiah” “Run” “keep going Nehemiah, you can make do it, you can do it.**

He said his pace instantly picked up, and he won the race.

He said if it wasn’t for the encouragement, the “exhorting” from others, he **would not have won the race.**

Brethren, IF there was ever a time for us to “exhort” one another, it is now, **and all the more, Because we see the day approaching**, and the time allotted to us (the cog) to have change natures, to change any and all of our bad habits, and sinful ways, that time is “Tarrying” out.

In the parable of the Ten Virgins, all ten virgins are slumbering and sleeping. Yes, both the “Wise” and the “Foolish” are slumbering and sleeping as the bridegroom Tarryes.

Let us not forget Why He is Tarrying?

(2nd Peter 3:9) is speaking to us today: *“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, (there’s that word again “perish” to destroy fully) but that all should come to repentance.”*

He is tarrying, because He is giving us more time to change our sinful ways and overcome, because if we do not overcome, we will perish.

We are FirstFruits, we have been called to become “Perfect” & “Holy” and to do it now while we are in the flesh.

(Ephesians 4: 11-13) (Let’s go there please)

“He gave some, apostles, and some, prophets; and some evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man.”

(Notice it doesn’t say unto a perfect “spirit being” but a perfect man.) Were talking here & now, while we are still in the flesh, before our change over.

We have been given the Power to succeed at overcoming. But we have to do our part, we have to use that Powerful Holy Spirit, we have to strive to overcome.

Soon Brethren, His tarrying will end, and All will be awoken at the Midnight Cry of Matthew 25. That awakening Cry is elaborated on in Revelation 10 where it says that soon, there will be *“Time No Longer.”*

As You See The Day Approaching

Brethren, do we see that day approaching?

For the past few years's earthquakes, floods, droughts, fires, and all kinds of disasters continue to get worse and worse. We keep hearing words like "Unprecedented" "Never before seen."

Recently a leading news commentator stated that words like "Unprecedented" are no longer appropriate to describe these worsening disasters that are happening around the world, he said we are well beyond **unprecedented**, that now words like "**Apocalyptic**" and "**Prophetic**" are much more appropriate.

(Times are different now.)

LA Times recently reported:

"Quakes are increasing around the world, but scientists aren't sure what it means." (Do we know what it means?)

Since the year 2,000 earthquakes magnitude 6 and above have skyrocketed.

Also,

The U.S. Geological Survey has also been studying the increase in earthquakes larger than 3.0 in the central and eastern United States in recent years. **There have been more than 100 a year on average in the last four years, up from 20 a year between 1970 to 2000.**

Volcanic Activity Is also Heating Up Around the World: More Than 39 Erupting Volcanoes and 100s of Earthquakes are currently Hitting Near or Under Lava Craters.

(This may be why 3 of the "Gospels" state our Lord specifying that earthquakes during these "end times" will be in "Downward" places.

Downward in the Greek relates to "downward motion" same word used in the same 3 Gospels concerning the herd of swine running "**down**" a steep place, like in Matthew 8:32.

Earthquakes have 3 classifications: A, B, & C. horizontal (causing little damage) up (causing tsunami wave) and down (pushing lava up the volcanoes. The most common today are "down" ones. Just like Scripture says: "diverse." = "downward"

Also, **all** super volcanoes on planet earth are expanding, a sure sign of eruption.

Yellowstone will soon erupt, but will send little to no ash east across the USA like scientists previously predicted.

Last time Yellowstone erupted it shot ash into the “Jet Stream” which carried the ash West. (The proof of that lies along the shores of the Pacific Ocean, where the ash from that last eruption still lies today.)

But next time Yellowstone erupts the ash will “bypass” the jet stream and into the “Stratosphere” turning the sun black and the moon red.

How do we know that? Because scientists say that Super Volcanoes are powerful enough to send the ash into the Stratosphere, but last time the ash only reached the “Jet Stream.” And our Lord says that what is coming will be “worse” than ever before. And scientists say that if the ash reaches the stratosphere, it will immediately put a dome over the earth turning the sun black and the moon red.

Last time our Creator was so upset with mankind’s sins, He shook the earth with a worldwide flood. But this time He says He will be shaking both the heavens and the earth.

The stage is set for the return of our Lord and Savior. BUT how about us, are we set for His return?

Are we true “disciples” of our Lord and Savior? Or are we “Complacent.”

Most in the church think a “Disciple” is a learner or pupil, and there is a Greek word for learner, its “Matheo” but that word is nowhere used in the Scriptures. The word used for “disciple” in the Scripture is “Mathetes.”

Mathetes means more than a mere pupil or learner; it means an “adherent.”

One who not only knows the teachings of his master, but walk the same way as his Master.

Our Master “overcame” this world, and our Master tells all 7 churches to do the same. *“To him that Overcometh”* He will grant this, and give that!

But Just trying to overcome doesn’t cut it with our Creator, we must succeed. (And we have the Power to Accomplish.)

(And make no mistake about it, the finish line is rapidly approaching!)

(As in the days of Noah, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage.)

What that tells me is that it’s going to be just another day (just like today) when the “midnight cry” of Matthew 24 is sounded.

Announcing the return of our Lord.

(Brethren, Laodiceans think they have it all, and know it all. But they don’t!!!)

If there was even a time for US the cog to anoint our eyes with that Laodicean eyes salve, it is now.

Contrary to what is commonly and “smoothly” preached, IF we fail to overcome, we will not be there...

Brethren we possess that same Powerful Holy Spirit of our Father that our Lord possessed.

That Powerful Spirit is what He used to overcome this world when He was same flesh and blood as you and I.

Without that Powerful Holy Spirit of the Father, our Lord said He could do nothing. He was too weak. He was a mere man just like you and me.

He walked this earth in the same “flesh” as you and I. (Look up the Greek, it’s the same “flesh” Strong’s #4561 = human nature with all its frailties and passions, carnal.)

Our Lord overcame by the Power of His Father, and so can we.

Let us not be led astray by the pulpits of men.

Many pulpits posses the spirit of “antichrist.”

(1 John 4:1-3) (Read it please.)

If you ask them if Christ came in the flesh, they will tell you yes, but they do not believe it. They believe that our Lord could walk this earth totally upright, but impossible for us to do.

1st Kings 6:7 says the stones of the Temple were cut, chiseled, shaped, and polished, before they will be erected on the “other side”. (The other side is the Kingdom of God.)

(No need even for mortar because they were perfectly prepared.)

(1 Kings 6:7 let’s read that please, it has a Lot of information.)

(Notice no “magic wand” in the tool shed, but there is an axe.)

(Ephesians 5:27) says: *“That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”*

Last verse (Revelation 15:1-2) (Read it.)

When you look up at those beautiful white clouds, do you picture yourself standing up there? I hope so, because that is where our Lord will be meeting His “True church” His “Little Flock”.

Those who “qualify” will be meeting Him, up in the clouds, up on the “Sea Of Glass” at His return.

Brethren, we have been called to come out of this world, to be ye separate, to be “Perfect” (complete in mental and moral character)

To be “Holy” (unblemished – unspotted) like our Heavenly Father.

And we have been given the Powerful Holy Spirit of the Father to accomplish. But the choice is ours.

(No one can overcome for us.)

This Feast represents the time when the Saints will be back on this earth, working with our Lord and Savior teaching others: *“This is the way, walk ye in it.”*

But in order to be there with Him, we have to fight, we have to overcome, we have to win the race that has been set before us.

So let us exhort and encourage one another to walk this earth upright, and all the more as we see the day approaching!

(Related subject)

“Perfect or in Part”: https://vwcog.org/Documents/Perfect_Or_In_Part.pdf)

“Crying Wolf” <https://vwcog.org/Documents/CryingWolf.pdf>