

Let Us Draw Near

4-27-25

Hebrews 10:22 (ESV)

Let us draw near!

In our study of Hebrews, we moved from the milk of the Word and have feasted on the meat of the Word especially from Chapters 7 through 10:18.

This meat of the Word is summarized:

Hebrews 10:12 (ESV)

But when Christ had offered for all time a “single” sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God.

From partaking of the meat of the Word, we have confidence in Jesus.

Hebrews 10:19–20 (ESV)

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh.

We know that a huge curtain separated the ark of God from the rest of the temple. When Christ died on the cross this curtain which represented Christ’s body was torn in two from the top to the bottom.

This opened a new and living way to God available to each of us through Christ. Based on this solid foundation we are emphatically told “Let us draw near” to Jesus. Hebrews continues:

Hebrews 10:21–22 (ESV)

Since we have a great priest over the house of God, “let us draw near” with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

We draw near with a true, unobstructed, sincere, and pure heart open to God. As Jesus says:

Matthew 5:8 (ESV) NO/OH

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

With our sincere heart we have the full assurance of faith. Full assurance in what God has said, what HE just told us in Hebrews Chapters 1 through 10 verse 20. We have confidence to “draw near” to Jesus because our hearts are sprinkled clean from an evil conscience. This means that our hearts are clean because they have been sprinkled with Christ’s Blood.

Our conscience, our shame of evil, that keeps us from drawing near to Jesus is covered over and sprinkled clean by HIS blood. Likewise, we draw near to Christ through the washing of the Word. A verse in Revelation covers both analogies.

Revelation 7:14 (ESV) NO/OH

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Understanding Jesus, knowing what HE has done for us, being convinced of who HE is, will be evidence by our heart felt commitment.

Hebrews 10:23 (NIV) NO/OH

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for HE who promised is faithful.

God is thoroughly reliable. When God makes a promise, HE alone fulfills it. Therefore, as a church:

Hebrews 10:24–25 (NIV)

²⁴And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

In our church relationships, let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Life is difficult. Christians need each other, and even more so in trying circumstances. This is why it is so very important to physically meet together as a church body. Not meeting together is seen as a serious weakness that hinders individual spiritual growth. Meeting together takes on a special urgency as we see the Day of Jesus' return approaching. Jesus' return impacts our behavior.

2Peter 3:11 (NIV)

Since everything will be destroyed by fire, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives.

The church is God's plan for the world. Therefore, let us draw near to Jesus, meeting together, and encouraging one another.

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.