

"THREE WARNINGS TO CONSIDER"

SCRIPTURE: HEBREWS 10:19-25

TEXT: HEBREWS 10:25

INTRO: As BORN AGAIN CHRISTIANS, we are a part of the GREATEST ENTITY ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH. I am speaking of the **CHURCH, THE BODY OF CHRIST**. And as GREAT AS THE CHURCH IS, I believe that many of us do not UNDERSTAND or APPRECIATE how GREAT THE CHURCH is in the mind of the Lord Jesus! In the passage before us today, we have some teaching about the CHURCH that really comes to us as a WARNING. In fact, there are **THREE WARNINGS IN HEBREWS 10:25 THAT EACH OF US NEED TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY**. It is quite possible that some of you have NEVER or have SELDOM considered these warnings, which is why we shall look at them today. **I PRAY WE WILL ALL HAVE AN OPEN HEART TO WHAT CHRIST IS SAYING TO US THROUGH THIS TEXT** and then that **EACH OF US WILL RESPOND ACCORDINGLY TO THE WILL OF GOD**.

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I. WARNING: DO NOT FORSAKE THE ASSEMBLY

"THE ASSEMBLY..AS IS THE MANNER OF SOME"

SOME DO!

NOTE: The word "MANNER" is significant to the text. The Greek word is: "ETHOS" which means "CUSTOM." By the time the BOOK OF HEBREWS was written around 67 or 68 AD there were some who had already **made it their custom to FORSAKE THE CHURCH!** (Just 35 years after Christ's resurrection).

A. The Meaning of Forsaking

1. "Forsake" means **"TO LEAVE BEHIND, TO ABANDON, TO REFUSE TO HELP OR TO LEAVE."**

2. Some people have and some people do just WALK AWAY FROM THE CHURCH! **CHRIST IS NOT PLEASED WITH SUCH ACTION!**

B. The Manner of Forsaking

1. By Not Attending Services (The prime emphasis) **Church services are designed to HONOR God with our worship, our time, our learning and our giving. When services are purposefully missed, God is NOT HONORED in those ways!**

2. By Not Praying for Others - For spiritual strength and wisdom.

3. By Not Teaching Others - For spiritual growth and development.

4. By Not Helping Others - With spiritual, emotional, financial needs.

C. The Motive of Forsaking

Selfish, godless, un-excusable, self-centered reasons.

NOTE: ONE WHO FORSAKES THE CHURCH (THE BODY OF CHRIST) IN ANY WAY WILL BE CHASTENED BY CHRIST HIMSELF.

ILLUSTRATION:

II. WARNING: DO NOT FAIL TO EXHORT

"TO EXHORT ONE ANOTHER"

SOME DO!

NOTE: The word "EXHORT" is significant to the text. The Greek word is: "PARAKALEO" which means "TO CALL NEAR, TO INVITE, AND INTREAT."

A. The Meaning of Exhorting

1. In this context "EXHORT" does not really imply to COMFORT OR CONSOLE.

2. "Exhort" involves **"URGING ONE TO PURSUE SOME COURSE OF PROSPECTIVE OR FUTURE CONDUCT. It carries the idea of bringing another person to conviction and commitment in Christian life and ministry!"**

B. The Manner of Exhorting

1. By calling or inviting others to come near to us with the intent of urging them to do or advance in certain aspects of the Christian life and ministry.

2. This could include but is not limited to:

a. Advance in Bible Study

b. Advance in Prayer

c. Advance in the Use of Spiritual Gifts

d. Advance in Giving

e. Advance in Evangelism

f. Advance in Discipleship

C. The Motive of Exhorting

To edify, strengthen and advance the ministry of the Body of Christ!

NOTE: ONE WHO FAILS TO EXHORT OTHERS IN THE CHURCH (THE BODY OF CHRIST), IN ANY WAY, WILL BE CHASTENED BY CHRIST HIMSELF.

ILLUSTRATION:

III. DO NOT FORGET THE DAY APPROACHING

"SO MUCH MORE AS YOU SEE THE DAY APPROACHING"

-THE RAPTURE-

SOME DO!

NOTE: The "DAY APPROACHING" speaks of the IMMINENT RETURN OF CHRIST in the RAPTURE. As we get closer to the RAPTURE, we are to REMEMBER it and ENCOURAGE OTHERS to remember it more and more.

A. The Meaning of Not Forgetting the Approaching Rapture

1. Remember that it could happen at any moment

2. Encourage each other to **REMAIN STEADFAST IN CHRISTIAN LIFE AND MINISTRY** as we get closer to the **RAPTURE**.

B. The Manner of Not Forgetting the Approaching Rapture

1. By Studying Bible Prophecy

2. By Discussing Bible Prophecy

C. The Motive of Not Forgetting the Approaching Rapture

To strengthen each other in the face of the sinful, apostate conditions that will grow more serious as we draw closer to the Rapture. (2 Timothy 3:1-7. etc)

NOTE: **ONE WHO FORGETS THE COMING DAY OF THE RAPTURE AND DOES NOT ENCOURAGE OTHERS IN ANY WAY WILL BE CHASTENED BY CHRIST HIMSELF.**

ILLUSTRATION:

LESSON/APPLICATION:

TAKING HEED TO THESE THREE WARINGS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH CHILD OF GOD. ARE YOU TAKING HEED???