

**All the More**

Hebrews 10:24-25

There are times when we bear down and focus on a task “all the more” because of what we see coming. In our text there are three things we are to do as believers all the more as we see the Day approaching. Before we see what we are to do, let’s ask the question, “What is the Day to which the writer refers?” Three possibilities: (1). The day of judgment on Jerusalem (AD 70), (2). The day of the coming of Christ to end the age of grace (commonly referred to as Jesus’ second coming), and/or (3). The day of your death. How should you spend your time? *“Christianity preaches the infinite worth of that which is seemingly worthless and the infinite worthlessness of that which is seemingly so valued”* **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**.

**I. Let us think deeply how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds (v. 24).**

The Greek word for “consider” means *“to think deeply.”* It is the same word used in Heb. 3:1 where I am called to “consider Jesus.” I am to exert mental energy in determining how I can inspire and motivate you to love others, resulting in doing good things for people for people around us.

(A). If you see something that is not loving and good for others, be active in correcting the situation.

We Christians are really good at provoking and stimulating others when what is not loving or not good is done to us, but our Christian duty is to provoke and stimulate love and good for others!

(B). “To provoke” is an activity that is not necessarily a calm or steady appeal.

Our English word *paroxysm* comes from the Greek word translated “stimulate.” Paroxysm is defined as *“a sudden attack or violent expression of a particular emotion or activity.”*

**II. Let us not forsake the assembling of ourselves together (v. 25).**

The word assemble (*episunago*) means ‘to collect around the same place or to gather’ (at a building).

There is a spiritual goal in mind each time that we come together as the people of God. The church (ekklesia) is composed of those “called out” by the Holy Spirit and “called together” for a purpose.

There is already an executed design, which was developed by the designer, for Emmanuel Enid!

We are to gather together to provoke one another to love others and do good for others (not ourselves) and to encourage one another as we see the Day approaching. This is not always easy!

(A). We are sometimes more interested in our comfort than we are our calling.

(B). The purpose of the church is to provoke and encourage believers to use gifts and resources to love and do good to a world in need of a Savior.

*“If we succeed without suffering it is because others suffered before us; if we suffer without succeeding, it is that others may succeed after us”* (**Edward Judson** -19<sup>th</sup> century missionary).

(C). How do you fit in the assembly so that the purpose of God is being fulfilled?

**III. Let us encourage one another (v. 25).**

The word “encourage” means to address, speak to, or call upon for the purpose of instruction, comfort, exhortation or discipleship. The entire encouragement in this text is that our relationship with each other, in terms of encouragement and support, is more important than any program.

(A) Coming to church cannot be “me” centered, and must be “others” centered.

(B) Our strength is measured by our encouragement, love and good deeds.

(C) Our mission as a church is mandated by the Lord in the sacred text, not our preferences.

(D) The meeting place and methods of meeting may change, but the mission does not.