

"What We Show When We Assemble Together"

⇒ **Text:** Hebrews 10:23-25

⇒ **Intro:**

○ Christians often say, "Why does the preacher, preach so much about being in church?"

○ Well, one of the reason is because Christians are not in church like the Lord would have them to be.

- Notice, I said, "The Lords wants the Christian to be in church."

- But, the way Christians talk, you would think that the preacher was picking on them and being in church was a requirement of the preacher and not the Lord.

○ What I want us to look at is why "the assembling of ourselves together" is so important.

⇒ **We want to notice what it shows.**

⇒ **I. "the assembling of ourselves together" shows "COMMITMENT".**

○ V23 - "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering."

- "hold fast" means to keep sure.

○ When we go to church we show commitment.

- When your neighbors see you leave out the house with a Bible tucked under your arm on Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Wednesday night, you are giving a testimony of commitment!!!!

- When folks know enough not to try to reach you by telephone during these times, it shows commitment.

- When you do this week in, week out, month in, month out, year in, year out, you show a testimony of "commitment".

○ Folks see that what you are committed to is not some fad or craze, or just a stage of life you are going through.

- You show a commitment.

- A commitment to the cause of Christ.

○ A commitment to a faith that says –

- Ro. 10:13 - "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

○ A commitment to a faith that says –

- 1 John 5:13 - "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may **know** that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the son of God."

○ A commitment to a faith that says –

- John 3:36 - "...he that believeth not the son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

○ A commitment to a faith that says –

- Rev. 20:15 - "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

○ "the assembling of ourselves together" shows "COMMITMENT" - it shows we mean business for God!!!

○ The Bible says in I Cor. 8:3 - "But if any man love God, the same is known of him"

- Going to church shows outwardly to others that you love God.
 - Christians show their commitment for God by assembling together.
 - The Christian's lack of commitment is evidenced by what it takes to keep them in church.
 - Special activities and fellowships.
 - In other words, something to satisfy the old vile and wicked flesh.
 - Often times a Christian won't come out to church unless they are going to get something.
 - Example - "full belly" - fellowship dinner.
 - Have a fellowship and you will see folks that you haven't seen for the last year, Amen!!
 - Entertainment by preachers who tell lots of funny stories and does very little Bible preaching.
 - We see everything in our churches today from clowns, puppets, magicians to tootsie rolls and ice cream sundaes to get people in church.
 - The problem today is Christians are more committed to their hobbies, jobs, families, friends, sports, TV, soap operas - then they are to Christ.
- ⇒ So, the assembling of ourselves together shows, "**COMMITMENT**".
- ⇒ **II. "the assembling of ourselves together" shows - "CONSIDERATION"**
- Vs. 24 - "And let us consider one another."
 - We live in a day and an age that lacks good old fashion consideration.
 - Very few today, consider anymore how their actions is going to effect the other person.
 - The Bible tells us "one sinner destroyeth much good"
 - This unfortunately includes Christians who do not consider how not being in church effects their brothers and sisters in Christ.
 - -How their not being in church would be a stumbling block to a newly saved Christian.
 - The Bible says –
 - Romans 14:13, "...but judge this rather that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way."
 - I Cor. 12:26 - "And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it."
 - -Romans 14:7 - "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself."
 - Christian, we have to realize how we live our life effects others.
 - We must be aware of our sphere of influence.
 - "the assembling of ourselves together" shows - "CONSIDERATION".
 - The next time the devil works on you and tries to keep you out of church.
 - Consider the effect of you not being there on the brethren.
- ⇒ So, the assembling of ourselves together shows, "**CONSIDERATION**".
- ⇒ **III. "the assembly of ourselves together" shows - "CONCERN"**
- Vs. 24 - "to provoke unto love"
- When we go church we show concern or love for one another.
- At church, especially on Wednesday Night, Prayer Service, we get to hear the needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

- One of the purposes of prayer service is so we can come together and show concern and comfort the brethren who may be burden.
- So, we can agonize and intercede in prayer for them.
- Maybe a brother or sister's need comes known and leads you to help that brother or sister anonymously through the church.
- 1 John 4:21 - "And the commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also."
- We should look forward to coming to church to find out what our brothers and sisters concerns and cares are.
- "the assembling of ourselves together" shows not only concern but is also a catalyst for that concern or love.
- Vs. 24 says - "provoke unto love" - or to excite unto love.
- In other words,"the assembling of ourselves together" is like lighting a fire underneath a brother or sister.
- You see the average Christian spends most of his time in the world and involved with the things of the world.
- Some of this involvement is necessary - i.e. our jobs.
- A lot of it unnecessarily - i.e. TV, socializing with the unsaved, etc.
- What happens is the Christian's love for Christ and the things of Christ grows cold.
- The ember taken from the fire soon goes out and grows cold.
- The Christ grows cold in his prayer life. Bible reading and study.
- He grows cold in his burden for the lost, which is evidenced by his lack of witnessing.
- So, When we assemble together - it provokes us unto love - concern for the things of the Lord.
- The once dying ember, reunited with fire (church members) becomes a blaze again!!!

IV. "the assembling of ourselves together" shows - "CONSECRATION"

- Vs. 24 - "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works" - "and to good works"
- "consecration" - means to set apart as holy.
- The Lord did not save you so you could continue in sin and live for the world, the flesh, and the devil.
- Romans 6:15 - "What then? shall we sin because we are not under the law; but under grace. God forbid."
- Most Christians are familiar with Ephesians 2:8-9 - "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."
- But Christian often forget why they were born of God, or born-again for.
- Ephesians 2:10, reminds us - "For we are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."
- We are set apart after we are saved unto good works.
- Why?
- Matthew 5:16 - Tells us so God will be glorified!!!
- "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

- Paul, the Apostle knew of the importance of good works in a Christian's life.
- In Colossians 1:10, Paul prayed the Colossians would be "fruitful in every good work"
- Paul tells us in Titus 2:7, that the Christian in all things is to show himself "a pattern of good works."
- A pattern is something to follow.
- Like ladies follow a pattern in making dresses.
- Paul lists some things that this includes - See Titus 2:7-8.
- The reason that the Christian is to show a pattern of good works in all things is so that no one contrary to them (unsaved) can have cause to say an evil thing about them.
- Paul continues in Titus 2:14, that our Saviour Jesus Christ redeems us from all iniquity and purify unto himself a peculiar people, (the reason for this - so we would be) "zealous of good works"
- James reinforces this in James 2:17-18 - Read.
- Since only the Lord can see a person's heart, good works show outwardly to man that a person has placed faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
- So, "the assembling of ourselves together" shows - "CONSECRATION".
- The Lord has set us apart as holy "unto good works"

V. "the assembling of ourselves together" shows - "COMMUNION" or Fellowship.

*Communion with the Saviour

- Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."
- When we assemble ourselves together - it is centered around the Lord, Jesus Christ.
- There should be a difference in us, after we have been in church.
- We should be changed from when we first entered the doors.
- The reason is we have been in communion and fellowship with the Lord.
- We have had some of the world knocked out of us through the preaching and the teaching of the word of God.
- We have had some of the world knocked out of us because while in church we have been "speaking to ourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in our heart to the Lord" (Eph. 5:19).
- We have the testimony-because we have been in communion with the Lord.
- People should be able to observe you and say, "that you have been with Jesus."

*Communion with the Saints

- When we assemble together, it shows not only communion with the Saviour but also communion/fellowship with the Saints of God around the Saviour.
- This is evidenced in the ordinance of the Lord's Supper's (1 Cor. 10:16).
- You see we come together because we have something in common.
- We are sons of God through faith the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Every time we come together it is in essence a family reunion.
- We have fellowship through the blood of Jesus Christ.
- We are told in 1 John 1:7.

-So, "the assembling of ourselves together" shows - "COMMUNION"

VI. "the assembling of ourselves together" shows - "COMMUNICATION"

- Vs 25. "exhorting one another"
- When we go to church we show communication through exhortation.
- Exhort has several meanings.
- "Urge strongly" - You know sometimes you and I need a push or a nudge to serve God and be involved in the things of the God.
- When we go to church and assemble together it is a time when we communicate.
- When we get a push or a nudge from a brother or sister in Christ or the pastor to serve God to do more for God.

- Exhort - also means "Propel".
- You know a bullet is useless unless it has gun powder to propel it toward its intended target.
- Sometimes we need to be that gun powder in another Christian's life to propel him toward the intended target, "serving God", "Going on for God", "Not Giving Up or Quitting".
- When we assemble together, we need to exhort one another or communicate with one another in the spirit of love.
- Sometimes we have to be spiritual cheerleaders for one another.
- Exhorting one another as we run the race that is set before us.
- Sometimes that exhortation takes on the form of a warning or advice, or an urgent appeal.
- What a better place to get exhortation but in church through the preaching of the word of God or counsel from the Pastor or through your brothers and sisters in Christ.
- So, "the assembling of ourselves together" shows - "COMMUNICATION".

VII. Lastly -"the assembling of ourselves together" shows a "CALLING-OUT".

- Vs. 25 - "and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching"
- "the day approaching" - The Lord's return, - The Rapture.
- "Church" means - called-out assembly.
- When we assemble together and meet, in a sense we are "called-out" of the world here on earth.
- When you were saved, you were "called-out" from the bondage and wages of sin.
- When we go to church we show the next prophetic event on God's calendar, the rapture of the body of Christ, the church made up of all believers in Jesus Christ.
- Where we will be literally taken out of this world from the grave if died in Christ before his return or alive at his return.
- See 1 Thess. 4:13-18.
- We are listening for the shout to us up and out!!!!!!!

- We have seen why the "the assembling of ourselves together" is so important.

-It shows - COMMITMENT-CONSIDERATION-CONCERN-CONSECRATION-
COMMUNION-COMMUNICATION-CALLING OUT.