

WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND EVERY ASSEMBLY

Heb 10:19-29

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Why are you here? There are several good reasons to be here but what is your reason? And was it important enough that you were here before time to start?
- B. If the reason you are here is still true for future assemblies, will you be here then? If it is still true Wednesday night will you be here then? What about next Sunday's meeting time or times? And if you are not here, where will you be and why will you be there?
- C. Will you be elsewhere in spite of plans to be here or because you simply did not plan to be here?

DISCUSSION:

I. TO WORSHIP AND PRAISE GOD

- A. God wants saints to worship Him:
 - 1. In spirit and truth Jhn 4:23,24
 - 2. Through prayer, singing, Bible study, Lord's Supper, and in giving Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1Cor 16:2; Col 3:16
- B. Saints should want to worship God Matt 22:37,38; Rom 5:6-8; 1Jhn 4:8-10; Heb 13:15; Col 4:2; 1Pet 2:2,9; Psa 122:1

II. TO GIVE AND RECEIVE INSTRUCTION

- A. Each saint must teach & allow others to teach him Heb 3:13; 5:12; 1Thess 5:11; Acts 8:4
- B. It is a work of the local church to provide a forum in which members can teach and be taught 1Tim 3:15; 1Cor 14:19, 40; Eph 4:15,16

III. TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

- A. Each saint should be a good example to others 1Tim 4:12; Matt 5:14-16
- B. Saints should especially be good examples to children. We should train our children to be what God wants them to be Eph 6:4 See also Ezek 16:44; Neh 13:23,24; 2Tim 1:5

IV. TO IMITATE JESUS AND OTHERS

- A. Saints should imitate Paul and other apostles 1Cor 11:1; Phil 3:17; 4:9
- B. Saints should imitate faithful elders and preachers and other faithful saints Heb 13:7; 1Pet 5:3; 1Tim 4:12; Heb 6:12
- C. Saints should imitate Jesus 1Pet 2:21; Gal 2:20 (Jesus teaching in the synagogue Matt 4:23; 9:35; 13:54; Lk 4:15,16; Jhn 18:20)

V. TO PRACTICE WHAT YOU KNOW IS RIGHT

- A. We have already seen many passages that tell us it is right to assemble for worship Acts 11:26; 20:7; Heb 10:24-25
- B. No passage tells us it is all right not to do so.
- C. But we are told not to forsake assembling Heb 10:25-29
- D. We are also told it is a sin not to do good Jas 4:17

VI. TO PUT GOD FIRST IN YOUR LIFE

- A. The Christian's life belongs, not to himself, but to God 1Cor 6:19,20; Rom 12:1; Matt 16:24,25; 2Cor 8:5
- B. Saints must seek first the kingdom and righteousness of God Matt 6:33; 10:34-39
- C. One may be sick or otherwise unable to engage in spiritual activities 2Tim 4:20
- D. One's ox may be in the ditch Lk 14:5. There may be times when something else is more pressing. Your plans to be here went awry.
 - 1. Unforeseen sickness in the home.
 - 2. Traffic accident on the way to the building.
 - 3. It could be anything over which you have no control.
- E. But if it is the same ox in the same ditch time after time, one may need to build a fence, fill the ditch, or get rid of the ox.

VII. TO PREPARE YOURSELF FOR HEAVEN

- A. Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people Jhn 14:1-3; Rev 2:10
- B. Heaven is a place where there is continuous praise toward God Rev 5:9-14; 7:9-15; 15:2-4; 19:4-8
- C. The one thing on earth that is most like heaven, therefore, is the public worship assembly of saints in a local church.

CONCLUSION:

- A. If you are here for one or more of these reasons will not the same reason(s) bring you back each time the members meet for the same purpose(s)?
- B. If our attitude is correct, the question is not "Do I have to attend every assembly?" but "Why would I want to be absent from any of them?"
- C. Discuss our relationship from standpoint of our being family (the household of God Eph 2:19) and the need to know why members of the family miss the scheduled meeting times for edification (feeding) and for worship.

from Bob Myhan {revised by JLH}