

# Therefore, Let Us...

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## Introduction

The expression “Let us...” occurs repeatedly in the Hebrew epistle (Heb. 4:1, 11, 14, 16; 6:1; 10:22, 23, 24; 12:1, 28; 13:13, 15). In this lesson, let us focus upon such occurrences in Chapter 10, Verses 19-25.

*Hebrews 10:19-25 ... 19 Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; 24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near. (NASB95)*

## We Should Have Confidence

In this context, confidence refers to a state of boldness and courage rooted in the redemptive work of Christ and our personal conviction as Christians (Heb. 3:5-6; 4:14-16; 10:19-22). Consider God’s charge to Joshua: “Be strong and courageous” (Josh. 1:6-9), and the fearless trust of the Psalmist: “The Lord is the defense of my life... I shall be confident (Ps. 27:1-3).

## We Should Have A Sincere Heart

A sincere heart is authentic, genuine and real. Jesus Christ, our great high priest, ministers in the heavenly sanctuary and the true tabernacle (Heb. 8:1-2; 9:24-25). In like manner, we should be true and trustworthy: “let us draw near with a sincere heart” (Heb. 10:22).

## We Should Have Full Assurance

Full assurance refers to a state of complete certainty. Christ is reliable, but what about us? Will we exhibit the full assurance of hope until the end (Heb. 6:9-12)? Are we manifesting the full assurance of faith which flows from a sincere heart (Heb. 10:19-22)?

## **We Should Have A Clean Conscience**

The sacrifice of Christ supersedes the offerings of the Mosaic system. Through the shedding of His precious blood, we experience full forgiveness, being made perfect in conscience. Cleansed from the contamination of sin, we can now serve the living God with a good conscience (Heb. 9:8-10, 13-14; 10:1-2, 22; 13:18).

## **We Should Be Washed In Baptism**

Ritual washings were an essential part of Old Testament worship. Nevertheless, such cleansings were temporary and temporal. In contrast, spiritual purification is promised in the Gospel dispensation. Sin is washed away in the waters of baptism (Acts 22:16; 1 Cor. 6:11; Eph. 5:25-26; Titus 3:5-6; 1 Pet. 3:20-21). Accordingly, has your heart been sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and your body washed with pure water (Heb. 10:22)?

## **We Should Hold Fast Our Confession**

Holding fast carries the idea of firmly adhering to divinely inspired traditions, convictions, or beliefs. The blessings of sonship are conditional: We are the household of God, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end (Heb. 3:5-6). We have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end (Heb. 3:14-15). In like manner, let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful (Heb. 10:23).

## **We Should Consider One Another**

Christians should be considerate, observant and perceptive, taking note and notice of one another. The strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength; with humility of mind, disciples must regard others as more important than self. Accordingly, let us strive to please our brethren, placing their interests above our own (Rom. 15:1-2; Phil. 2:3-4). Consider Jesus (Heb. 3:1), and also one another (Heb. 10:24).

## **We Should Provoke Each other**

On certain occasions, disciples experience sharp disagreements, even to the point of division (Acts 15:36-41). However, from a positive standpoint, we should be provocative, rousing one another to activity, stirring up our brethren to love and good works (Heb. 10:23-25).

## **We Should Encourage Each Other**

The Greek word translated “encourage” literally means “to call to one’s side,” i.e. to exhort and encourage, to implore and entreat. We should encourage one another day after day, through regular association and assembly (Heb. 3:13; 10:25). We also urge one another to greater faith and fidelity, being committed to prayer and divine precepts (Heb. 13:18-19, 22).

## **Conclusion**

How are such goals achieved? We start the process through being washed in the blood of the Lamb. We complete the process through personal devotion and personal interaction. Will you not obey the gospel while there is time and opportunity?