



Lights and Perfection, Inc.

Go and make disciples!

E-votional 9

Hebrews 10:24 (ESV),

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->And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.<-

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The word stir here is defined from Strongs

Greek 3948: Stimulation, provocation, irritation, angry dispute. From paroxuno; incitement, or dispute

parokysmós – a provocation which literally jabs (cuts) someone so they "must" respond.

Is not the word of God described in a like manner in Hebrews 4:12(ESV),

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

It is amazing to think that in the context of Hebrews 10:24 that this is the very thing we are to be doing when we gather together as Christians. It is a pretty potent command if you think about it. I mean, to provoke one in such a way to move them to respond.

Do you feel provoked when you go to church and "meet together" in such a way that you feel you must respond? If this is true, what is the correct response?

The provocation we are discussing here has everything to do with love and good works. Love, as well as good works, are something that we do in response to what God has already done. I am reminded of what Paul said in Ephesians 2:10 (ESV),

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

With this in mind, along with the idea of needing to stir one another up to love and good works, it would now be wise to consider this next question. Why would we need to be stirred up in order for love and good works to be active in us?

Honestly, I am led to believe that we must be stirred or provoked at times so we will follow and obey Christ through the Holy Spirit. I am reminded of the Laodicean church Jesus rebuked for being lukewarm in Revelation 3:14-22. Are there any areas of lukewarmness in you?

The city of Laodicea was very wealthy and was part of a trade route. Therefore, the rebuke Jesus gave them was fitting. This is in reference to Revelation 3:17 (ESV),

For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing,

The reality is that Jesus is speaking here to a church that grew complacent by relying more on blessings than the Blesser, where He counsels them to buy from Him, gold refined by fire (Revelation 3:18).

Gold refined by the fire I believe is directly related to a believers walk in sanctification, where the Holy Spirit leads one from glory to glory and causes love and good works to spring forth.

However, we, like this Laodicean church can also grow complacent. Therefore, it is necessary for us, through the Holy Spirit to stir one another up. Really, the whole purpose of meeting together as the bride and body of Christ is to stir and provoke one another to love and good works. We are awaiting the return of Jesus Christ and the day is surely drawing near (Hebrews 10:25). The question then becomes, how do you want to be found by Him at His return?

Come on body of Christ, let us consider how to because we've got some stirring and encouraging to do!

The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you, in Jesus name.

In Christ's Love,
Chris and Jeanne
Lights and Perfection, Inc



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