

## **Let Brotherly Love Continue**

**“The Hebrew writer begins his concluding remarks in the book of Hebrews by reminding the readers to be thankful.**

**Hebrews 12:28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: 12:29 For our God *is* a consuming fire.**

**In reality, ingratitude was the heart and core of their problems. Their hardships had caused them to lose sight of God’s blessings. They had lost sight of Christ’s preeminence; they had lost sight of the guidance God’s word afforded them, and they had lost sight of the peace that God offered to them through Christ. They allowed their troubles to rob them of their reverence for God.**

**The only way that you can remain faithful in difficult times is by focusing on the blessings God has afforded you.**

### **Remember Your Blessings**

**The writer seeks to refocus their lives by reminding them of their blessings. They need to remember what they have turned away from.**

**It is essential to understand that difficult times demand manifesting our love to each other. There is a synergy effect we receive by standing together as one. One horse may be able to pull 500 pounds, but two horses can pull 2,000. We call this synergy.**

**The American Heritage Dictionary defines the word synergy.**

**“The interaction of two or more agents or forces so that their combined effect is greater than the sum of their individual effects. 2. Cooperative interaction among groups, especially among the acquired subsidiaries or merged parts of a corporation, that creates an enhanced combined effect. ”**

**This explains why community worship is so important. We need the encouragement of others in order to be provoked to love and good works. It is detrimental to our faith to abandon the church when troubles arise. “ By: Jim Davis**

**Hebrews 10:23-25** Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised;) 10:24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

**Hebrews 13:1** Let brotherly love continue.

**Deuteronomy 6:4** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD: 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6:6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 6:7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 6:8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. 6:9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

**Matthew 22:36-40** Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law? 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 22:38 This is the first and great commandment. 22:39 And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 22:40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**James 2:8** If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

**Rom. 12:10-21**

**I Cor. 13:1-13**

**Hebrews 13:2** Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

***Be thankful for strangers. "Do not forget to entertain strangers" (13:2). Our distrustful society as a whole doesn't treat strangers very well. We expect them to start dressing like we do and talking like we do. Have you ever been to a church that didn't know how to react to strangers? We must be thankful***

for the strangers in our midst. When troubles arise, we tend to become distrustful of others, especially strangers. Try to imagine living in a society hostile to Christianity? No doubt paranoia would set in and you would see strangers as a threat. Some in the church are afraid of the strange people who come to worship. Strangers are a blessing; they may be messengers sent to us by God. God may have sent that stranger to us to serve us in some way to enhance our lives. "*Some people have entertained angels without knowing it.*" The writer is probably referring to angels visiting Abraham (Genesis 18:1-10). We must remember how we have felt when we have been treated as a stranger and respond to the strangers in our lives with the acceptance we have desired in such times.

**Exodus 23:9** Also thou shalt not oppress a stranger: for ye know the heart of a stranger, seeing ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

**Psalms 69:6-13** Let not them that wait on thee, O Lord GOD of hosts, be ashamed for my sake: let not those that seek thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel. 69:7 Because for thy sake I have borne reproach; shame hath covered my face. 69:8 I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children. 69:9 For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me. 69:10 When I wept, *and chastened* my soul with fasting, that was to my reproach. 69:11 I made sackcloth also my garment; and I became a proverb to them. 69:12 They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I *was* the song of the drunkards. 69:13 But as for me, my prayer *is* unto thee, O LORD, *in* an acceptable time: O God, in the multitude of thy mercy hear me, in the truth of thy salvation.

***Be thankful for your suffering because it allows you to empathize with others. "Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering."*** Remember how you have felt and encourage others that are having the same problems.

**Hebrews 13:3-25**

**Christianity is better than all else:**

**Better Revelation Hebrews 1:1-4**

### **Better Hope**

**Hebrews 7:19** For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope *did*; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

### **Better Testament**

**Hebrews 7:22** By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

### **Better Covenant**

**Hebrews 8:6** But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

### **Better Promises**

### **Better Sacrifices**

**Hebrews 9:22-23** And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. **9:23** *It was* therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

**Hebrews 9:28** So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

### **Better Possessions**

**Hebrews 10:34** For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.

### **Better Country**

**Hebrews 11:16** But now they desire a better *country*, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

### **Better Resurrection**

**Hebrews 11:35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:**

**Hebrews 13:5 I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**

**The Literal Greek has 5 negatives, 2 verbal ideals & 1 pronoun used twice.**

**The Literal translation is:**

**'No.**

**I will never leave thee.**

**Not I.**

**I will never.**

**Never cast thee off'.**