

## Hebrews 10:19-25 As You See the Day Approaching

**Intro: Joe is 45 yrs old – he has a great job & really a wonderful life**

A) Great wife in **Suzy** married for 20 yrs – 3 awesome kids/ Billy is 15 Janie is 13 / Becky is 7 – **She was a Surprise**

B) Active in their Church / **great circle of friends** / but all of that Changed when he went in for his yearly Physical –

There he Discovered he was in the advanced stages Cancer/ His Doctor gave him **3 months to live** What a Shocker!!!!

C) How would your life Change if you found out that you had 3 months to live ? What would be your priorities / What would change / do different ?

**What about if the Lord somehow revealed to you that the Rapture / Jesus comes for His Church would occur in 3 mths / sometime in DEC**

A) NOT SAYING – **he is coming in 3 mths** – but what if the Lord told you that ?

B) What affect would that have on your life !!!!

B) One of the things that made the early Church so effective / so powerful / one reason that they **turned the world upside down**

And spread the gospel of JC all over the world w/out the use of modern day Communication Technology **ie TV Radio / modern Transportation**

C) **Huge Motivation for all that they did .** They believed that Jesus **could come back at any moment**

Now Peter tells us in his epistle – why the Lord has delayed 2 Pet.3

**The Lord delays because He desires more people to be saved**

D) Waiting giving more people the opportunity to Repent – **Turn from sin & turn to Christ** – experience ETERNAL LIFE

E) 3 months to live ? 3 mths before the Lord returns –

What affect should that have on our lives ? **Heb 10 gives us some insight rd v.19-25**

**Up to this point in our study in Hebrews, the focus has been on the Doctrinal aspect of the completed work of Christ!**

A.) Proving that Christ is better High Priest, Who offered a better sacrifice, **He established better Cov**

B.) In fact We have seen the writer - tear apart each aspect of the Old Cov and contrast it to Christ / Clearly Showing He is superior!

C) At this point in the epistle - He begins to exhort the readers: Having proven his point - (it is useless to go back to rituals - Judaism)

V.19-21 Gives us a quick recap- **Therefore:**

**We have Boldness to enter into the Holiest – Access to God – Intimacy**

A) BY His blood – *w/out the shedding of blood .....* *sins* / Jesus' blood opens the door – Satisfied the Requirement of a Holy God

B) V.20 BY *A New & Living Way* : His Rez. establishes a New Cov.

C) **V.21 Because He lives** – WE HAVE A HIGH PRIEST Who is / seen:  
After the order of Melch - Priest & King /  
Compassionate –able to sympathize w/ us / Merciful / Faithful / Interceding

**So He gives a Quick recap of the main points that He has been drawing our attention to:**

A) What should be our Response ? What should we be about ?

B) What should we be doing / especially in light of the last phrase v.25

*As we see the day approaching:* The day of Christ Return

**Jesus said no man knows the day or the hour but that we can know the signs**

A) Matthew 24 he likened the signs of his coming to a pregnant woman having a baby {Labor Pains

B) Pregnant – then showing – then contractions

C) Closer **she gets to her due date the labor pains become more frequent and intense.**

**These are some of the Labor pains**

A) Increase in earthquakes – their size and frequency – Check

B) Increase in Famine

C) **Like the days of Noah –**  
– Increase in Population/ Increase in Violence – / Increase in Sexual Immorality - All time Highs

**Signs in Europe: Moving toward a 10 nation confederacy – one world economy.**

A) Europe is so unstable right now. Italy, Spain, Greece on the verge of economic collapse

B) The value of the Euro has dropped significantly

1)Europe is primed for a new structure – leader

C)Leader will rise up – Charismatic leader –

**Seems far fetched?– Can anyone say Barak Obama**

A)Most of us 4 yrs ago had never heard of the guy – suddenly – out of no where – President

B)Pull – Great speech giver and a Charismatic leader message – Change – and millions of Americans said yes we want change.

C)Europe will be the same way! Antichrist will be that kind of leader – Rock Star

1)Democratic convention – 80K in Stadium – Buzz

D)I said that night, there is our next president

**Israel – Always a sign**

A)The last days portrays Israel a country standing alone – the rest of the world – against her.

B)Watching the new – President of Palestine – Cheers / pres Net – Nothing

C)America Israel’s oldest Ally – Standing silently by

**USA – Silent in Prophecy**

A)Folks we are hurting – Economic –melt down

B)Nuclear strike –

C)Rapture –

D)We are not a player

**So I think it is safe to say: We see the day approaching!**

A)But you say – they have been saying that for 40 yrs now – the tent – Maranatha –

B)closer

C)But let’s look at this another way too – INSTEAD of THE DAY – **YOUR DAY**

**Die – Gary 56 / Joe 44 / Dorthy 75 / Harold 84**

A)Listen – When I took over as Pastor here 15 yrs ago the average age of this congregation 35-45

B)Now – 50-60

C)Stuart Briscoe 81– **“My future is closer than my history!”**

D)True of MOST OF US! –

**YOUR DAY IS COMING – READY?**

A)How doing? - Alps – Died Climbing – Gary

B)How do we get ready? – Our text

What Should be our Response – 3 things : *Let us*

**1<sup>st</sup> – Let us Draw near w/ a True Heart:**

A) What an INCREDIBLE INVITATION:

B) Hebrews 4 - encouraged to come boldly - before throne of grace, receive mercy to help in time of need!

C.) **This takes it one step further - "Come and draw near!"**

**1<sup>ST</sup> SERVICE** 1) Descriptions of NEARNESS in scripture

**Man w/ His Wife – Nearness – Intimacy – We are the Bride\**

**Mom w/ Her Kids – Nursing – very affectionate & Near**

**Mother Hen w/ her Chicks – Hidden under her wings**

D) This is what the Father desires - *nearness of His kids!*

1.) My kids younger - watch movie - seen before - *"Dad sit with me - I love it!*

D) Father says to us - draw near!- No reason to be **ashamed** - You are welcome & wanted!

1) That is all I need to know - the Father is so in love with me!

**E) Recall Prodigal came home – not just forgiven / hugged / embraced /**

Heaven rejoices – (not worship / saved

**But notice also the attitude in Coming – 1<sup>st</sup> True heart / A true heart speaks of 3 things**

A) #1 – **True about me** – Admit that I am a sinner – saved by grace / only way Access – is because of what Christ did – NOT A POSER

B) Only way to approach God is thru Jesus !!!

**C) #2 - True heart -** speaks of a Sincerity it is genuine, without superficiality, hypocrisy, or ulterior motive.

1) Not trying to Bargain w/ God – Real

D) #3 A True heart speaks of **speaks of a whole heart** not 1/2 heartedly but - fully committed to Father!

1) As we see the day approaching / **Not time for a 1/2 hearted walk w/ God**

E) Whole heart! *He is rewarder of those who diligently seek Him*

**Notice we are also to draw near In full assurance of faith!**

A.) **With an assured confidence!** Not questioning our right of access, or the certainty of OUR gracious acceptance through Christ!

B.) Come in make yourself at Home – Frig – Can I can I – drives me crazy --

C.) **Why Full assurance of Faith?**: Our Hearts sprinkled and bodies washed

W/ His Blood / So Our conscience clear!/ Guilt is Gone !!!

D.) **So First – Let us Draw near w/ True heart** – does that describe your relationship w/ God ?

**2<sup>nd</sup> – V.23 Let us Hold fast the Confession of our Hope without Wavering**

A.) Notice first the word Hope = Absolute Expectation of coming good! Not a wish / absolute - sure thing ( **Padres win Pennant – no Sure thing**)

B.) **What is our hope?** That Jesus is preparing a place for us! That He is coming again!

1) That we have eternal life! Inheritance in Him! Hope of Glory!

C.) Paul put it this way: *COL 1:27 God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

D.) Paul also said in Titus 2:13 - *We were to be looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ!*

**Notice: this hope is to be a confession!**

A.) Something we believe **so strongly** in that it is talked about, focused upon! - Confessed

Aa) Confession strengthens the hope! –

**Aaron Brooklyn – Came back – I have a girlfriend**  
1) **Marriage in 3 months**

B) **Confession gives others a Chance to Have this Hope**  
1 Peter 3:15 *But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you,*

C) Hopelessness of Our world !!!

**We are to Hold fast ...Grk is *firm hold* that masters that which is held**

A.) Idea is The reality of our hope should be so strong / so firm that it radically effects our lives!

B) Confidence – Assurance

1) Purity in walks 1 John 3:3 - *He that has hope purifies ... pure!*

C) It is when we lose sight of this hope that we find ourselves compromising - becoming complacent

Some years ago a hydroelectric dam was to be built across a valley in New England.

The people in a small town in the valley were to be relocated because the town itself **would be submerged when the dam was finished.**

During the time between the decision to build the dam and its completion, the buildings in the town, which previously were kept up nicely, fell into disrepair. **Instead of being a pretty little town, it became an eyesore.**

Why did this happen? The answer is simple. As one resident said, **"Where there is no hope in the future, there is no work in the present."**

If we Lose our Hope in the soon return of Christ that is the first step toward letting things go & losing our affectiveness in this world !!!!!

**Why is our hope so sure? Here's key**

A.) Because He who promised is faithful / put it another way: *Jesus keeps His promises!*

Aa) 300 prophecies first coming / End times Israel/ Technology

B.) **The Source of our Hope - is Him!**

1) That's why Paul said *person without Christ had no hope in this world!*

C.) The world is fading away – perish, it is going down but Jesus remains

1) So hold fast confession of hope - *because He is faithful*

3<sup>rd</sup> v.24 Let us consider one another in order to stir up love & good works

A.) The hope we have should encourage us to stir up each other!

Bb) Note that Consider means *perceive clearly* –

B) Paul said in 2 Cor.5:16 That he was going to regard **no man according to the flesh** –

C) He didn't want to see his Bros / sisters in the flesh but **in Christ**

1) In Christ went on New Creation

D) Sometimes we can be so critical of others, so judgmental of others – when we do that we are not seeing them clearly – **seeing only the flesh**

Jesus used this word Consider in Matt 7 when he said *why do you look at your brother & see the speck in his eye & Not Consider* – Not perceive clearly the log in your own

A) Often times the reason I can come down on others is I am not seeing them or myself clearly – that I am like them, a sinner saved by grace

B) **clearly we see our wife** – Before your wife she is God's daughter – think about that. / **Bride**

1) Dads – How respond some guy yelling at your daughter { Mistreating daughter – **Rip head off**

C) Grace that you are still here!

C) **That brother who gets on your nerves** – Was purchased by the blood of Jesus.

D) Heathen in your office – Jesus came to save!

This word Consider also speaks of having attentive continuous care for one another!

A) Consider each other in such a way – Caring Concern for that persons well being – Care about the body - focus is on others not on myself!

B) Consider one another *in order or for this reason* to stir up one another to love & Good works /

Bb) Here we see the Characteristics of true fellowship! That which stirs each other up in love of Christ – service/ **Iron sharpens iron ... friend!**

C.) **The word stir up = to Stimulate** – Paddles used to stimulate the heart to get it going again / Electrical currents – limbs going

D.) We need Friendships that stimulate your walk with the Lord! **{Build up rather than tear down! Think about your closest relationships - what are the key ingredients? What effects does time together have on you?}**

A) Idea of stirring up reminds us of what happens when coals are in a fire! Get hotter! - **On fire for Jesus!**

B) I pray be a stirred up church – Stimulating one another – to Love Christ more / to Serve Him more / Seek Him more diligently -

C) Excited about Lord's return. Excited about serving; evangelism!

**<sup>24</sup>And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, <sup>25</sup>not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some,**

A) **Not Forsaking fellowship** as is the manner of some

B) we need each other! –

C) Keep our fire burning bright -

Pastor went to visit a person .....been in a while / chilly night / fire / big chair / greeting sat silence / fire After some minutes, he took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the fire place Then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

**The host watched all this in quiet fascination.**

As the lone ember's flame diminished, there was a momentary glow, but then its fire was no more and **it was cold and dead.** Not a word had been spoken since the initial greetings. But as the minister rose to leave, the host said,

*"Thank you so much for your visit—and especially for your fiery sermon. I shall be at church next Sunday."*

C) The body of Christ is like coals in a fire; together stirred up keep warm --do great things

1)12 disciples stuck together & turned the world upside down!

Fellowship for strength and support – Redwoods

Fellowship for Completion

As members of the body of Christ, we can be compared to pieces in a jigsaw puzzle.

Each piece has protrusions and indentations.

**The protrusions** represent our strengths (gifts, talents, abilities), & **the indentations** represent our weaknesses (**faults, limitations, shortcomings, undeveloped areas**).

The beautiful thing is that the pieces complement one another and produce a beautiful whole picture ( Your strengths cover my weaknesses vice versa )

**Just as each piece of a puzzle is important, so each member of the body of Christ is important & can minister to the other members of the body**

A) What happens when a piece is missing from puzzle / obvious It damages the picture

B) So also is the whole weakened when we are absent from the body of Christ

1) In a puzzle the pieces all blend together so too in the body of Christ.

**Testimony to the world .**

A) the world looks at the Church & is amazed.

B)*Jesus said know you are my disciples ...Love "*