

# **HOLY LIVING**

## **Heb: 10:1-25**

Several years ago a song with the lyrics 'what am I living for if not for you' was released

It spoke of the warm feeling that one has when in a relationship...

When that is the case nothing is too good for the person...

That is the kind of attitude that should characterise our relationship with God...

God loves us so much that His love for us should cause those of us who love Him to love Him back in return.

The book of Hebrews has been called the 5<sup>th</sup> Gospel. Whereas Matthew.... record Jesus Christ's ministry on earth, Hebrews records Jesus Christ's ministry in heaven.

There have been several debates about who wrote the book of the Hebrews. However many believe that the Apostle Paul wrote to the Hebrew Church to divert the danger of the Jewish Christians drifting back into Judaism. They were encouraged to let go of everything else and hold fast to the profusion of faith in God that they had believed in **Heb 10:23**.

With so much cost cutting, job loss, world crises, family crises and Church politics, it is so easy to be distracted and forget to hold onto our faith in Jesus Christ...

The life that we have been called is a life of holiness and not one that is tainted by worldly affairs....

Pro: We are called to holy living.

### **1. Consecrated living**

The Greek word for consecrated means dedicated...

It involves coming to God, approaching God or drawing near to God.

Our heart need to be true and sincere...

The Greek word translated true in verse 22, means real and genuine...

According to v22 consecrated living requires conviction... It cannot be half or partial assurance of faith....

Consecrated living also requires that the blood of Jesus Christ sprinkling our hearts.

In the Old Testament animal blood was sprinkled to forgive sins but look at verse 4-12 when you get home and you will see that that it reminds us that the blood of animals could not make people right with God and so Jesus Christ came and shed His blood...

Sprinkling is a process that takes time...

Notice we are sprinkled with the blood to free us from an evil conscience.

## **2. Consistency in the faith**

Paul says in v23: we must hold fast....

The Greek word used here means to take possession of, seize, detain, arrest....

We cannot afford to let go if we are going to be consistent.

We are encouraged to hold fast to the profession of our faith, not ideals, not political ideals, not our bank account, not even our business interests, not tradition, not even Church rules...

Consistency also demands that we do not waver v23...

Why not waver? Hallelujah He is faithful that promised. Tell the person on your right 'our God is a faithful God'.

What are the promises?

A) Lo I am with you always **Matt 28:20**

B) Whatsoever you will ask in My Name that will I do, **John 14:13-14**.

C) When you pass through the waters: **Isaiah 43:2**

See **Heb 12:1-2**

## **3. Consideration for others**

Holiness requires that we do not only see ourselves and our needs as important but that we see other people and their needs as important.

Do good to all men...

V24 says consider one another and the Greek word used here means to mind, to contemplate, to understand...

Consideration requires provocation... not always bad  
Provocation normally results in a response, so good provocation or a little nagging can be endured...

If your brother or sister is going astray don't ignore them, don't criticise them, point them back to the narrow way...

Provocation must be to agape love and good works...

#### **4. Communion with God's people**

Communion involves closeness, fellowship...

Paul says in v25...

It is said that iron sharpens iron...

The word use here as forsake literally means to leave or desert...

If we are going to be holy we need each other..., united we stand.....

The problem in the Hebrew Church was that some were not attending regularly... and breaking down the communal spirit...

Rather than forsake the assembly the encouragement is to do the hold thing and gather together and exhort each other...

The Greek word used here means to encourage, to call to ones side, to aid, to council, to comfort, to advocate for...

#### **Conclusion**

We are called to holy living.

- 1 Consecrated living.
- 2 Consistency in the faith.
- 3 Consideration for others.
- 4 Communion with the saints.