

Sunday Evening June 24, 2018

“Exhort, Daily!” Hebrews 3:13

but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:13 NKJ)

I. Exhort one another –

but exhort one another (Hebrews 3:13 a)

1. Note what it means to exhort, there is a variety of different kinds of communication caught up in this word exhort -

παρακαλέω parakaleo {par-ak-al-eh'-o}

Meaning: 1) to call to one's side, call for, summon 2) to address, speak to, (call to, call upon), which may be done in the way of exhortation, entreaty, comfort, instruction, to admonish, exhort to beg, entreat, beseech to console, to encourage and strengthen by consolation; to instruct, teach

2. This is usually personal communication, husband and wife, best friends, but can include elders, or deacons, WIC meetings, almost any meeting formal or informal
3. This is not a duty for only the pastor! One another means every Christian!

II. Daily, exhortation is part of the DAILY stuff Christians are called too -

but exhort one another daily (Hebrews 3:13 b)

1. Every Christian is called by Christ to take up his cross daily – Then He said to *them* all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. (Luke 9:23 NKJ)

2. Were invited by God to pray daily for our “daily” bread – Give us this day our daily bread. (Matthew 6:11 NKJ)

In fact, praying is to be a constant thing – pray without ceasing, (1 Thessalonians 5:17 NKJ)

3. The noble, fair-minded Bereans searched the Scriptures “daily” and so should we –

These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to *find out* whether these things were so. (Acts 17:11 NKJ)

4. What would exhorting one another “daily” look like?

A. It is spiritual talk, about spiritual things

- What part of the Bible do you read today?
- What did you learn from that part of Scripture?
- What can I pray for you today?
- It can include challenging a brother or sister about a sin you see them committing –

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. (Galatians 6:1 NKJ)

- It includes the compassionate sharing of each other's sorrows –

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2 NKJ)

B. We can be nervous bringing such things up with one another / Satan would keep Christians away from such things...

Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. (Proverbs 27:6 NKJ)

5. Daily to me means it is a husband / wife thing; perhaps a best friend thing, definitely it is a thing for Christians in close proximity to and in regular contact with each other!

III. While it is called today –

but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," (Hebrews 3:13 c)

What does Paul mean by adding this phrase while it is called "Today,"

1. It means start this NOW! It is Paul's anti-procrastination phrase!
2. It means there is a certain urgency connected to this activity, similar to what we see in Ephesians 5:15-16

See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,¹⁶ redeeming the time, because the days are evil. (Ephesians 5:15-16 NKJ)

I have one of the same weaknesses my dad had, he would always say –

“I will start my diet TOMORROW.”

IV. *The REASON this activity is urgent, lest any of you be hardened –*

...*"Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:13 d)*

*Hardening can happen Fast
Our fervor, heart, is NOT built to LAST!*

1. *We are built dependent upon Christ –*

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. (John 15:5 NKJ)

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13 NKJ)

2. *We are built for dependence upon God –*

And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. (Exodus 17:11 NKJ)

3. *But God has also made us dependent upon each other –*

But Moses' hands *became* heavy; so they took a stone and put *it* under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.¹³ So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. (Exodus 17:12-13 NKJ)

4. *We are in danger of being hardened –*

What is it to be hardened? It is a hard heart!

A. *See it in Pharaoh -*

And Pharaoh's heart grew hard, and he did not heed them, as the LORD had said.¹⁴ So the LORD said to Moses: "Pharaoh's heart *is* hard; he refuses to let the people go. (Exodus 7:13-14 NKJ)

B. *See God hardened Pharaoh's heart –*

But the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh; and he did not heed them, just as the LORD had spoken to Moses. (Exodus 9:12 NKJ)

C. *See hearts can get as hard as STONE –*

"Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, (Ezekiel 11:19 NKJ)

5. *Hearts can be "hardened" we can be "hardened" through the deceitfulness of sin - "lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:13)*

Sin is a deceitful, lying thing!

A. *It promises pleasure but ends in pain –*

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. (Heb. 11:24-26 NKJ)

It happened in the spring of the year, at the time when kings go out to *battle*, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. (2 Samuel 11:1 NKJ)

Then it happened one evening that David arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold.³ So David sent and inquired about the woman. And *someone* said, "*Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?*"⁴ Then David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her, for she was cleansed from her impurity; and she returned to her house.⁵ And the woman conceived; so she sent and told David, and said, "I *am* with child." (2 Samuel 11:2-5 NKJ)

B. *It promises God grace in a way Satan did –*

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? (Romans 6:1 NKJ) *Sin says Yes, Yes, Yes!*

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. (Genesis 3:4 NKJ)

C. *It tells us exhorting each other, going to church, reading the Bible daily, taking up my cross daily are not really NEEDED –*

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.²⁶ For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,²⁷ but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. (Hebrews 10:24-27 NKJ)

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