

**THE NEW AND LIVING WAY**  
*(Hebrews 10:19-25)*

**Introduction:**

- I. In our Bible studies, we often try to look at the Bible with an educated, analytical view to give ourselves insight to the passages we have read before. This is good and necessary, but it is also good to break down the Gospel into basic parts and analyze ourselves to make sure we are still founded on the truth that is in these basic parts.
- II. When Jesus told the people in his Sermon on the Mount not to worry, he used basic examples (birds, grass), and basic human needs (food, clothing). In this way, he was able to reach those who had little knowledge of the truth, and to interest them in his doctrine, but he also kept those who had knowledge of the Law (scribes, Pharisees) in check with the simplicity and authority of his message.
- III. We have an obligation to Jesus, the Messiah.
  - A. By his blood: He has given us confidence to enter the holy places.
  - B. Through his flesh: He has opened for us a new and living way.
  - C. Of himself: He has given us a great priest over the house of God.
- IV. Because of this, we are told to do three things:
  - A. We are to draw near to one another in faith.
  - B. We are to hold fast the confession of our hope.
  - C. We are to consider how to stir up one another in love.

**Discussion:**

- I. Faith
  - A. We draw near with a true heart.
    - i. This means that when we come together, it is for the right reasons, and that we are not putting on a front, but we are honest in our motives and actions.
  - B. We draw near in full assurance.
    - i. We are not ashamed or afraid to admit why we are here.
    - ii. We do not doubt that Jesus is the Son of God and our Savior.
  - C. We draw near with hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience.
  - D. We draw near with our bodies washed in pure water.
    - i. These two refer to baptism.
      1. I Peter 3:21: ***“Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”***
  - E. Are you in full assurance of your faith?
    - i. How can we draw near if we are unsure of our faith?
      1. ***“We walk by faith, not by sight” (II Corinthians 5:7)***
        - a. If our faith is not assured, then we cannot see clearly to draw near to one another.
    - ii. If you are not in full assurance of your faith, do not be disheartened.
      1. Why do people take dietary supplements?
      2. Is it shameful for someone to need vitamins?

- a. No. Our diet is not as good as it needs to be. No matter how hard we try sometimes, we always seem to “fall short” of ideal nutrition.
  - b. Romans 3:23: **“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”**
- 3. People who must take dietary supplements must do so, because their diet is not enough to sustain them.
- 4. Likewise, if someone’s faith is not enough to sustain them, they must supplement it.
- 5. II Peter 1:5-7: **“For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.”**
- iii. Then our faith, when supplemented by these things, is nourished, and can grow into a more healthy faith, and then we can be assured and can draw near with that assurance.

## II. Hope

- A. We hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering.
  - i. Hope is when you look forward to something with some reason for confidence respecting fulfillment.
  - ii. We do not waver.
    - 1. **James 1:5-8**
- B. We hold fast and do not waver, because he who promised is faithful.
  - i. In the introduction to Paul’s letter to Titus, he said that the letter was written, **“in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began.” (Titus 1:2)**
- C. Are you holding fast the confession of your hope without wavering?
  - i. Compare this to Hebrews 3:6: **“but Christ is faithful over God’s house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.”**
  - ii. This means that we are his house if we hold fast our confidence in the hope that we are proud to have.
    - 1. This would be like you being proud of your children or grandchildren: Everyone who knows you, knows you have children or grandchildren.
    - 2. Likewise, everyone who knows the person who is proud of their hope, knows that that person has hope.

## III. Love

- A. We consider how to stir up one another to love.
- B. We consider how to stir up one another to good works.
- C. We consider how to encourage one another
- D. We consider all the more as we see the Day drawing near.
- E. Are you considering how to stir up the Christians in love?
  - i. Are you present when the doors open?
    - 1. This includes all services during the week.

- ii. Are you present when benevolent work is done?
  - 1. This includes helping with giving to others
    - a. This congregation has been really good at this, especially in the last couple of months. This will not go unrewarded.
- iii. Are you present when evangelical work is done?
  - 1. This includes devotionals.
  - 2. This includes the nursing home singings.
- iv. Are you present when someone needs a friend?
  - 1. This includes the person sitting next to you.
  - 2. This includes the person sitting alone across the room.
  - 3. This includes me.
  - 4. This includes you.
- v. Are you present when you don't have to be?
  - 1. Some of the best gifts to someone are unexpected visits.
  - 2. This is one of the most effective ways to keep someone faithful to the Lord: just being there for them, and showing concern for them.

### Conclusion:

- I. We can not neglect these basic duties we have to Jesus and to one another.
  - A. Hebrews 10:26-31
- II. If you have been neglecting any of these things that you can do, then you are neglecting responsibility placed on you by what Jesus did when he came to earth.
  - A. To those of you who may be guilty of this, that is the bad news.
  - B. The good news is that you have an opportunity to make it right today.
  - C. As Jesus told the Ephesians three things to do in order to repent in Revelation 2:5.
    - 1. Remember from where you have fallen.
    - 2. Repent. (feel remorse, be converted)
    - 3. Do the works you did at first.
  - D. Those of you who have not been baptized can take care of that as well, and you can go home today, justified and unafraid of the second coming of Jesus.
    - 1. You may already have faith, and you may be considering how to stir up the church to love and good deeds, but the hope found in the Gospel is for those who obey it.
    - 2. Grasp that confidence today, and hold fast to it.
- III. ***“Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. For, ‘Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay; but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him.’ But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls” (Hebrews 10:35-39).***
  - A. Are you part of the group that has faith and preserves its soul?
  - B. If not, would you like to become part of it?
  - C. You can, right now, as we stand and sing.