

**Assurance and Encouragement** 

Hebrews 10:19-25 (ESV)

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- <sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,
- <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,
- 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God,
- <sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

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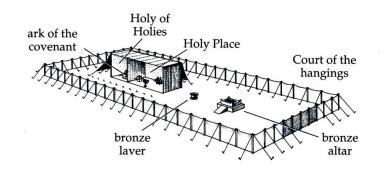
- <sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.
- <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,
- <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

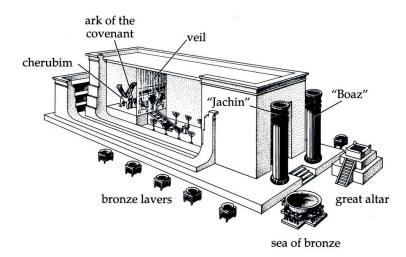
#### I. Assurance

#### A. Confidently Enter the "Holy Places" (10:19-21)

- 19 "Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God"
- The writer appeals to what the audience already knows, then twists it.
- Golden lampstand, altar of incense, the showbread
- Jesus and Annas, father-in-law to Caiaphas; Eli and Samuel
- Yom Kippur ("Day of Atonement")
- <sup>37</sup> And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. <sup>38</sup> And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. <sup>39</sup> And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" (Mark 15:37-39)

### The Holy of Holies





### The Holy of Holies



### I. Assurance B. Full Assurance of Our Salvation (10:22a)

- <sup>22</sup> "let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith" (10:22a)
- **Ephesians 2:8-9** "For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast."

#### I. Assurance C. Cleansed from Sin (10:22b)

 "with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water." (10:22b)

- Psalm 51:1-2, 7
- Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
   Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! . . .
- Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
   wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

# I. Assurance D. Confession of Faith (10:23)

- <sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. (10:23)
- **John 14:6** Jesus answered, "I am the way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
- **John 6:66-69** <sup>66</sup> After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. <sup>67</sup> So Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" <sup>68</sup> Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, <sup>69</sup> and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

## II. Encouragement A. Encourage One Another to Love (10:24a)

- <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love (10:24a)
- **John 13:34-35** <sup>34</sup> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

## II. Encouragement B. Encourage One Another to Serve (10:24b)

- <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to . . . good works (10:24b)
- James 2:18 "But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works."
- **Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)** <sup>10</sup> "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

## II. Encouragement C. Encourage One Another to Worship Together (10:25)

• <sup>25</sup> "not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." (10:25)

- Psalm 122:1, 8b-9
   I was glad when they said to me,
   "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" . . .
- I will say, "Peace be within you!"
   For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
   I will seek your good.

#### **Definition: Palimpsest**

• "A manuscript, usually of papyrus or parchment, written on more than once, with the earlier writing incompletely erased and often legible."

# **Ephesians 3:14-21 Assurance and Encouragement**

- <sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, <sup>16</sup> that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup> so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
- <sup>20</sup> Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

