"The Theology of "Holy Days": Why We Must Gather" (Part 4) Hebrews 10:19-25

"Is the Lord's Day **HOLY** to me or How much **JOY** does the Lord's Day bring to me?"

"Coals kept in a fire pit stay hot, take a coal out of the fire pit and it will quickly grow cold. The gathering of the saints is the fire pit. I have never seen a hot coal stay hot for very long outside of the firepit."

"Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord." (Romans 12:10-11)

- (Hebrews 10:19-22) "Let us draw near": 1 John 1:7-2:1
 - The veil in the Holy of Holies was a barrier between people and God.... "Tell Aaron your brother not to come at any time into the Holy Place inside the veil, before the mercy seat that is on the ark, so that he may not die. For I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat." (Leviticus 16:2; cf. Hebrews 9:7)
 - o Through the blood of Christ we now have access to the presence of God...."how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God....But as it is, He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." (Hebrews 9:14,26b)
 - Christ is our great High Priest so that we can enjoy the presence of God.... "but He holds His
 priesthood permanently, because He continues forever. Consequently, He is able to save to the
 uttermost those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession
 for them." (Hebrews 7:24-25; cf. Hebrews 4:14-16)
- (Hebrews 10:23) "Let us hold fast": Philippians 1:22-26
 - We have been called to continue to trust in Christ and not turn back. No matter what we lose,
 Christ is worth it, He is faithful.... "But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed,
 but of those who have faith and preserve their souls." (Hebrews 10:39; cf. Hebrews 10:32-39)
- (Hebrews 10:24-25) "Let us consider how to stir up one another": (2 Peter 1:8-15)
 - There are two kinds of stirring up to consider....In Hebrews 10:24 it means to injure someone so they must respond. In 2 Peter 1:13 it means to wake someone up. We need both of these realities.
 - Love (John 13:34-35) and good works (Titus 2:14) are evidence of our salvation. Without these
 two realities we are "ineffective and unfruitful in our knowledge of Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 1:8).
 - The gathering of the saints is a call to love, serve, and encourage one another for the glory of God because that is what God saved us to do.
 - Everyday the gathering of the saints should be becoming more valuable and precious to us.
 Through suffering together and through worship together the world grows dim and Christ becomes glorious.

Worship: Psalm 18 — Citizens From Everlasting — Sovereign Grace Music Bless the Lord O My Soul — Sovereign Grace Music

Closing Song: His Mercy Is More — Matt Boswell

Announcements:

- ★MEN'S BREAKFAST: Men, we have a Monthly Men's Breakfast scheduled for *THIS* Saturday, September 9th, at 7am, at The Big Apple Café Log Pond. Joel Decker needs a headcount by *THIS* Wednesday, September 6th, in order for everyone to sit together. (You can just show up, but he can't guarantee seats!)
- ★WOMEN'S FALL GET-TOGETHER: Ladies, mark your calendars, we are planning a Women's Fall Get-Together on Saturday, October 14th, at 3pm, here at the church Fellowship Hall! The church will provide coffee, tea, hot cider, and cookies. Feel free to bring a finger food or dessert to share! This is a great way to make new connections or just catch up with friends. Children are welcome, but no child care will be provided. If you have any questions, please see Andrea Fields.
- ★FELLOWSHIP DINNER: We are having a Fellowship Dinner NEXT Sunday, September 10th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to join us for dinner and fellowship!
- ★ MISSIONARY UPDATE: Next Sunday, September 10th, the Lambs, one of the global missionary families that we financially support, will be joining us for the worship service, as well as giving us a short missionary update, at the end of the service, on their work and ministry in Papua New Guinea.
- ★MEMBERS MEETING: In TWO weeks, on Sunday, September 17th, we will be having a short meeting immediately following the worship service to vote on the potential switch to a morning worship service time. If you are currently a church member, please plan on staying for that meeting.
- ★DONATIONS: Throughout the month of September we will be collecting monetary donations for the Christian Union Co-op. This is the general fund out of which the denomination aids individual churches within the denomination, as well as paying for repairs and upkeep of the State Home Office. The money we are collecting will go directly towards repairs that need to be done to the sanctuary at the State Home Office they will be putting in a new H-Vac system and putting a new roof on the building. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for Christian Union.
- ★LEGACY PRACTICUM: On September 11th we will begin our 3rd Semester of "Systematic Theology" and we will be studying, "Evidences and Apologetics" from Dr. John C. Whitcomb who taught Apologetics for 39 years at Grace Theological Seminary. This course will be beneficial for any believer, as we will learn the best method in reaching the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We will look at different systems of Apologetics and propose the "Presuppositional Method", which is that the Bible is "Self-Authenticating" and is the best method of reaching the lost. The Course will be 7-8 weeks and we will meet on Mondays from 6-9pm, with 10 minute breaks every hour. Everyone is invited to take this Course as an Audit, meaning you will receive a Syllabus, but will not be tested or have any additional requirements except to listen and take notes as desired. If interested, let Elder Richard know so we can have a Syllabus printed for you.

 I Peter 3:15: "but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect."
- ★<u>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</u>: If you are a church member and interested in serving the body by volunteering to serve in the Children's Ministry, we would love to have you join this ministry! We are in need of people who are able to serve on both Thursdays and Sundays! If you have any questions about this ministry or if you are interested in serving in this ministry, please see Kalen or Courtney Dees.

Account Balance: \$38,925.96 July Balance: \$34,658.06	Weekly Budget: \$3,463
Total Giving: August 6	\$5,092.00
Total Giving: August 13	\$2,240.00
Total Giving: August 20	\$3,877.00
Total Giving: August 27	\$1,849.00