

HEBREW "LET US"

(Hebrews 3:7-19)

INTRODUCTION

Physically, anyone involved in a healthy life-style has lettuce in their diet.

It's good for you, nutritious, valuable food.

It usually becomes a salad, a dish with added ingredients: shredded cheese, cucumber, radish, ham or bacon bits, light ranch dressing (but not blue cheese), etc.

Spiritually, Hebrew "let us" makes a spiritual salad that's good for us, is healthy and productive.

Here is the "let us" in Hebrews, the items we add on our part for spiritual success.

1. (4:1) **"Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it."**

(v9) "There remains therefore a rest to the people of God" - speaks of heaven.
Be afraid to miss this great and eternal reward.
Do not "come short of it" - to miss it by a little is to miss it completely.

2. (4:11) **"Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief"**

Add "labor" to your "let us" - diligence, toil, effort, attention, sweat
Do not "fall" - not finish, miss the mark or goal, not gain the prize.
"Unbelief" - these readers knew their history; do not copy that. (see 1Cor. 10:11)

3. (4:14) **"Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession"**

Look at Jesus, our model and incentive, of holding fast our profession.
Jesus is contrasted to the Levites of the OT merely passing beyond the curtain in the tabernacle.
"Hold fast" - guard, watch, maintain, clutch, hang on.
"Your profession" - that statement of faith "I believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God."

4. (4:16) **"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need"**

As Christians, priests in the NT church, we approach God through Jesus: (1 Tim. 2:5)
Add bold prayer to your "let us." (Eph. 3:20)

5. (6:1) **"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on to perfection ..."**



“Leaving” - departing from them in the sense of progressing beyond them; not to be wiped out, erased, abandoned, nor forgotten. (i.e. the ABCs)

“Go on” - press on; learn; develop; build knowledge; move toward graduation.

“Perfection” - maturity; full grown; developed; ripe.

(1 Peter 2:2) “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.”

(v3) “And this will we do, if God permit” - Lord willing, we will go on to other things.

6. (10:21-22) “And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith ... “

Because of who Jesus is (“an high priest”), and who we are (“the house of God”), we are able to “draw near” (to God) “with a true heart” (no pretense) and “in full assurance of faith” (confidence, no doubts) and “having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience” (we repented) and “our bodies washed with pure water” (were baptized, cleansed).

All Christians, individually, draw near to God through Jesus, the one mediator.

7. (10:23) “Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for he is faithful that promised” (see Romans 4:20-21)

“The profession of our faith” - not the mere verbal statement of faith, but live it.

“Without wavering” - “hold it fast;” determined; decisive; not wishy-washy.

“God is faithful” - more than believing that God can, but that God will;

(Titus 1:2) “In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised ... “

8. (10:24-25) “And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching”

One cannot live the Christian life in isolation: it’s “us” and “one another.”

“Assembling ourselves together” offers tremendous opportunities to encourage, be encouraged, exhort, offer hope, and share joys and mutual woes.

Never minimize the value of assembly.

9. (12:1) “Wherefore seeing that we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does easily beset us”

“A great cloud of witnesses” - these are the heroes of faith, those who have borne testimony of the Truth, those who have survived the test of earthly trials.

“Let us lay aside every weight” - things not bad within themselves;

it’s the things that weigh us down and hold us back or slow us down.

“And the sin which does so easily beset us” - wrong conduct or attitude that’s always nearby and we just can’t seem to shake off; (Romans 13:14).

10. (12:1) “... and let us run with patience the race that is set before us”

“Run with patience” - run (not sitting down and waiting for something to happen); movement; endurance; perseverance; an attitude to reach the finish line.

“The race” - you’ve entered, have patient endurance, stay within the bounds, finish.



- (v2) "Looking unto Jesus ... "
(v3) "Consider him that endured ... "

11. (12:28-29) "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken (moved), let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire"

- "A kingdom which cannot be shaken" - in contrast to the OT physical temple which destroyed several times in history, the NT kingdom (church) will never be defeated by anybody nor anything nor at anytime present or future.
"Let us have grace" - be thankful; show gratitude; render thanks.
"Serve God acceptably" - give God worship that is pleasing to Him; His terms.
(John 4:34; John 5:30; John 6:38; Luke 22:42; Matthew 7:21)
"With reverence" - be in awe; have respect for; honor.
"Godly fear" - right regard for God's power and majesty; His way.
"For our God is a consuming fire" - see (v25) and (Heb. 10:31)

12. (13:13-14) "Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp (outside the gates), bearing his reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek one to come"

- Meaning, the way that we approach God is through Jesus, and it is not through the temple, nor its sacrifices, nor the city of Jerusalem, nor OT law.
(v12) "Wherefore, Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate."
"Bearing his reproach" - sharing the same contempt, shame, or stigma he bore.
"For here we have no continuing city, but seek one to come" - future in heaven.

13. (13:15-16) "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

- "Offer the sacrifice" - (1 Peter 2:5, v9; Romans 12:1-2)
"Of praise" - quite different from the OT sacrifice of animals and blood.
"To God continually" - the church scattered throughout the week is to become the church gathered (assembly) on the first day of the week.
"The fruit of our lips" - speaking, teaching, admonishing, singing, etc.
"Giving thanks to his name" - look for ways express praise to God always.
"But to do good and to communicate (be benevolent) forget not"
(Matthew 20:26-28; Heb. 6:9-11)
"For with such sacrifices God is well pleased" - that's the goal.

CLOSE -

That's a lot of Hebrew "let us" to plant, cultivate, harvest, and feast on.

It's worth it!