

# Call To Persevere (Part 1)

***“Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:19-25)***

Christ death on the cross for our sins had opened the way for us to reach God and paved the way and enabled us to persevere and achieve the things the Lord had ordained for us to achieve. In the Old Testament the Ark of the Covenant that represents the presence of God in the life of His people was present in the tent of meeting and later on it is placed in the temple of God in Jerusalem. The setup was composed of two rooms, the outer room and the inner room. The Ark of the Covenant was in the inner room that is called the most Holy place or the Holy of Holies. And it is separated from the outer room with a curtain. The highest priest for that year will only be allowed to enter the most Holy place once a year to offer sacrifices for himself and for the people. But when the Lord died on the cross for our sins, ***“At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.” (Matthews 27:51a)*** Therefore we can enter the Most Holy Place with confidence with the blood of Jesus. The curtain that was separating the people from God was replaced by the body of Jesus that was hanged on the cross for our sins and brought us back to God. Now with this new covenant with the blood of Jesus we can approach God with confidence. Not only that but Jesus after He died on the cross He rose from the death and ascend to heaven and now He is at the right hand of God the Father interceding for us, and He became the great priest over the house of God, ***“Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.” (Hebrews 7:23-25)*** What a wonderful promises the Lord had bestowed on us, and all these promises would enable us to commit ourselves more to God and to persevere more in life to do His will and walk in His ways. Therefore,

***1- Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart:*** This is a call for consecration. God is calling us to be cleansed from sins and all unrighteousness. We need to clean our hearts from things that God hates. ***“For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.”(Matthew 15:19)*** Since Jesus died for our sins and pave the way for us to reach God then we are called to honour the blood of Jesus and His great work on the cross by living in obedience to His word and to His commands. Since Jesus had done great things for us we are called to be more faithful and obedient to him by living a holy life. The blood of Jesus, the name of Jesus, the Word of God and the Holy Spirit are all important for the cleansing work of God in our lives. As we repent from our sins then the blood of Jesus will cleanse us from guilty conscience so we can serve the Lord with a clear conscience and this what the word of God would tell us: ***“How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death,<sup>[1]</sup> so that we may serve the living God!” (Hebrews 9:14)***

***2- Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful:*** As we commit our lives to live a holy life unto the Lord and as our faith brings obedience into our lives then we can be assured of receiving of what the Lord had promised in His promises to us. God is faithful; as we wait patiently for His promises then God would reward us and fulfill what He had ordained for us to receive from Him.

***3- Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds:*** At this stage of God’s calling into our lives, the Lord direct us to spur or sharpen one another and encourage one another toward more love and to do good deeds. When we meet one another that is the right time that we can instruct, admonish and encourage one another to do the right things that the Lord would direct us to do: ***“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.” (Proverbs 27:17)*** Our fellowship and meeting together should light the fire of God in the life of the members of the church to go on and serve God wholeheartedly. Our fellowship together would help to impart God’s vision, strengthen the faith of the church members and even as we meet together God would bestowed on us the spiritual gifts and the talents that we need to do His will and to do His work.

***4- Let us not giving up meeting together:*** When we come together and meet in worship, for prayers and for studying the Word of God we are not doing that ***as some are in the habit of doing;*** we are not doing it for the sake of doing. We are not doing it as ritual or routine thing and we do not understand what we are doing. But we do it for a purpose; when we meet together even two or three in the name of the Lord, the Lord Jesus Christ is with us, ***“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” (Matthew 18:19-20)*** God had a purpose for us when we meet together; God want to achieve a task through us as we meet together, that is why we should not neglect our meeting together. When we meet together we are praying for one another, and we are building one another. As we hear one another testimonies we are encouraged and uplifted and help one another to continue to persevere and trust God for our lives.

***5- Let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching:*** The Lord Jesus Christ is coming soon and He will take us to heaven we who belongs to Him. ***“But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.” (Matthew 24:36, 42)*** So we need to be ready. Therefore when we meet together, we are reminding and encouraging one another that the Lord is coming soon and he will take us with Him back to heaven, and in this way our suffering and trials will be ended up and the Lord will wipe all our tears.

***My Dear and Beloved:*** These are the last days and we are surrounded by such large events of trials and tribulation. But we don’t need to give up or loss our foothold. We should not be persuaded by the wickedness that is so prevalent. We have the blood of Jesus and we have His promises to live and persevere while we are waiting for Him to come and take us to heaven as we agree to pray.

***My Prayer:*** *Father God I thank you for your Son the Lord Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I commit myself to follow you in full obedience to your words and commands. Lord gives me patience and perseverance as I am waiting for you to come and take me with you for eternity. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*