

## B. The Invitation (v 22-25)

Paul gives three invitations using the phrase '*let us*'.

v 22 *let us draw near* - instead of *departing* Hebrews 3:12

v 23 *let us hold fast ...our faith* - not *wavering* 2 Peter 3:17

v 24 *let us consider one another* - our faith is not a selfish faith. It is to be shared in the community of believers. That's called *fellowship* 1 John 1:7

"Believers need to come together today. We need to draw together in love and worship our Saviour in a local church.

These three *let us* verses invite us to :

Draw near in faith - toward God

Draw near in hope - for ourselves

Draw near in charity - with others " *J. Vernon McGee*

review

10/27/2019

v 23-25 = the steadfast *faithful* : who honour worship *assembly* Zeph 2:1-3  
[ these are the *spiritual*, growing saints ]

v 25 = the backslider (apostate believer) : when they *forsake the assembly*

the cause = Heb 3:13

the consequence = 1 Tim 1:19

the call = 2 Cor 13:5

truth : the *faith of Christ* makes a *new creature* (2 Cor 5:17)

When Christ saves a sinner, he delivers him from the *prince of this world*, Jn 12:31  
and the *dominion of sin*, Rom 6:14

## C. The Exhortation (v 26-39)

Paul's exhortation is aimed at two groups :

(1) the *wilfull* unbeliever - one who will not believe God's word v 26-31

OT example of v 28 = Numbers 15:32 (note v 30-31)

Today, the *wilfull* unbeliever has heard the gospel; NT promise = John 16:7-14  
 God is faithful; men have heard the truth - John 1:9  
 but they do ... *despite to the Spirit of grace*, v 29

The consequence - v 30-31 & v 26-27 2 Thes 1:8-9

(2) *the believer* willing to endure afflictions, v 32-39

These Christians were willing to suffer individual *reproach* and the loss of personal property (*spoiling of goods*, v 34). They also courageously identified with other believers who were persecuted and imprisoned, like Paul (v 33-34).

"The secret to their victory was **faith** (v 38) and **patience** (v 36).

The companion of **faith** is **patience** (Heb 6:12).

This combination is the key to *companionship* (v 33), continuance (v 34),  
*confidence* (v 35) and *the promise*, which is *reward* (v 35-36).

*The just shall live by faith* (v 38). This is a quote from **Habakkuk 2:4**

This phrase is repeated three times in the New Testament: Rom 1:17, Gal 3:11, & Heb.

Romans focuses on '*the just*'; where Paul teaches justification.

Galatians emphasizes '*shall live*'; where Paul shows how to live in the Spirit.

Hebrews explains that **faith** is the foundation; this is the theme of chapters 11-13.

God says the Christian who *lives by faith* will "go on unto perfection" (Heb 6:1).

But the believer who "walks by sight" (2 Cor 5:7) will *draw back* (v 38, & 25).

Dr. Wiersbe wrote : "In my own pastoral ministry, I have met many people who turned their backs on God's will and spent years 'wandering in the wilderness' (like Israel). But we can be confident! As we *walk by faith*, our Great High Priest will guide and perfect us !! "

v 39 ...*we are not of them who draw back unto perdition* = the lost (v 29)

*but of them that believe to the saving of the soul* = the saints (1 Cor 1:2)