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| Slide # |  |
| 1 | **A Call To Action – Let Us Fear & Be Diligent…****Hebrews 4:1-16** |
| 2 | **Why Use *“Let Us”*?**These statements **represent more than suggestions**, they are imperative commands. Actions we are **responsible for doing which left undone are sinful**. (James 4:17) The words ***“Let us”*** are simply added by the translators to **imperative commands** to **emphasize the scope of responsibility**.For example, in the original language, Hebrews 4:1 actually reads, **“Fear therefore…”** & Hebrews 4:11 reads **“labor therefore”.**  |
| 3 | ***“Let Us” What***?**“Let us” in Hebrews address our relationships in three ways:**1. **Our relationship to each other -**
* **“Let us consider how to stimulate one another…” (Hebrews 10:24)**
1. **Our relationship to our goal of heaven.**
* **“Let us fear” (4:1)**
* **“Let us be diligent” (4:11)**
* **“Let us press on to maturity” (6:1)**
* **“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope” (10:23)**
* **“Let us lay aside every encumbrance and the sin (12:1) and**
* **“Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.” (12:1)**
1. **Our relationship to our heavenly Father and Jesus.**
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| 4  | ***“Let Us Fear Coming Short”*****Hebrews 4:1** follows **Hebrews 3:12-19** which discusses **the danger of falling away** because of ***“an evil, unbelieving heart”*** & which calls for us to ***“encourage one another day after day”***and to ***“hold fast… until the end”***. **Example of the Israelites** and the journey to the promised land and the many who ***“were not able to enter because of unbelief.”*** (3:19) Enter what? ***“My rest”*** (3:11)**But they did believe**? (Exodus 4:31; 14:31; 19:9; Psalms 106:12) **What happened**? (Psalms 106:13-14; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13) |
| 5 | ***“Entering His Rest”***What does ***“His rest”*** mean?Part of **Jesus’ invitation** is that **those who come to Him will find *“rest for your souls.”*** (Matthew 11:29; cf., Jeremiah 6:16)God gave His people “***rest***” in the Promised Land. (Deut. 12:8-10; Josh. 11:23; 2 Sam. 7:11; 1 Kings 8:56)***“Rest”*** - not the absence of activity but the **absence of conflict & adversity** and God blessing their labor. Revelation 14:13, the key is to remember that heaven is for those who are to ***“rest from their labors”.*** **For some, there will be no rest**. (Revelation 14:11; cf., Deuteronomy 28:58-65) |
| 6 | ***“Let Us Fear Coming Short”*****Sad truth is most never made it!** (Hebrews 3:18; cf., 1 Corinthians 10:1-12)**Paul did not want to come short of the “prize”.** (Philippians 3:12-14, *“****Forgetting what lies behind*** *and* ***reaching forward to what lies ahead****,* ***I press on towards the goal for the prize****…”)***Not a matter of doubt and uncertainty** but a **sober realization** that **our work is not yet done**! We are to have confidence! (1 John 2:27-29; 5:3, 13)It is a matter of not being “at ease” (Amos 6:1) and battling the “once saved, always saved” mindset.  |
| 7 | ***“Let Us Be Diligent To Enter That Rest”*****(Hebrews 4:12) *“Diligence”, “to use speed (urgency), prompt or earnest”.*****Peter addressed the same idea calling our “rest” our *“entrance into the eternal kingdom”***(2 Pet. 1:10-11) calling upon our **continued growth as Christian**s (vs. 5-9) and **continual self-xamination**. (2 Peter 3:14)**How**? The ***“living and active”*** **word of God** (Heb. 4:12; 2 Timothy 2:15) and knowledge that ***“all things are open and laid bare.”*** (vs. 13) |
| 8 | ***“Let Us Press On To Maturity”******“Leaving the elementary teaching…”*** (cf., Hebrews 5:12-14)***“Press on to maturity” -*** command to move forward. ***“Maturity”*** or ***“perfection”.*** To finish or complete, reach the end, finish the race (2 Timothy 4:7; John 19:30; cf., Luke 8:14) The other option? (Hebrews 6:4-8) So, focus on the ***“better things”*** (6:9), the **justice of God** (6:10), and the need again to “***show the same diligence”*** and **not be “sluggish”**. (cf., Hebrews 5:11) |
| 9 | ***“Let Hold Fast The Confession of Hope”*****What are we living for?** Our hope is not here! What we hope for is not seen with the eyes. **Speaks to our focus beyond this life**. (Philippians 1:21-24)To ***“hold fast”*** means we’re ready to defend/explain our hope. (1 Peter 3:15)Our hope is to be our “***anchor***”. (Hebrews 6:19; cf., 3:6)**Do you have this hope?** (Titus 2:13; Ephesians 2:12) |