

The Importance of the House of the Lord

Focus Scripture:

“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.”

(Hebrews 10:25)

Christians coming together to a central place of worship is very Biblical. The idea of congregational worship did not start with the church but goes back to the time of the children of Israel. The Tabernacle in the Wilderness is referred to many times as the Tent of the Congregation. Furthermore, in Deuteronomy 12, Moses gave instructions regarding a central place of worship for all Israel. Note verse 5: “But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, *even* unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come:” And then in verses 13 and 14: “Take heed to thyself that thou offer not thy burnt offerings in every place that thou seest: But in the place which the LORD shall choose in one of thy tribes, there thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings...”

In the New Testament, we have many examples and instructions about the church coming to together into one place to worship. In Acts 20:7 and 1 Corinthians 16:2, the church assembled, “upon the first day of the week.” I Corinthians 11:18,20; 14:23,26; Acts 11:26; 14:27, all speak about the church coming together in one place.

And last but not least is our focus scripture where we are commanded to not forsake the assembling of ourselves together to worship. Just as the Tabernacle in the Wilderness had the Golden Candlestick, the Table of Shewbread, the Altar of Incense, Ministers and the presence of God; the church is a house of light, where the Word of God is preached by the Ministry and the congregation engages in prayer, worship and praise. All of this is done in the presence of God.

It is important to go to church.