

THE FORMER DAYS

Hebrews 10:32-35

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Paul has pleaded with the Hebrews to provoke one another to love and to good works.
- 1) They are to consider one another
 - 2) They are to excite one another
- B. He has warned them of the consequences of abandoning the assembly.
- 1) It is a willful sin
 - 2) It is a triune sin
 - 3) It brings fearful judgment from God
- C. Paul now gently reminds them of the difficult times they have endured.
- 1) *"But call to remembrance the former days..."* vs 32
 - 2) *"remembrance"* = αναμνησκω = "to recall to one's mind"
 - 3) *"former"* = προτερον = "before", "earlier", "sooner"
 - 4) *"Call to mind those previous days..."* BER
- I. Some Things They Should Remember
- A. *"...former days, in which..."* vs 32
- 1) The first days following your initial commitment to Jesus Christ.
 - 2) In these days they had abandoned themselves to the Lord's work.
 - 3) This certainly involves, "first love"
- B. *"...ye were illuminated..."*
- 1) φωτιζω = "to shine", "give light" LXX "to teach"
 - 2) "after you first received the light"

C. "...ye endured a great fight of affliction;"

- 1) "endured" = υπομενω = "to remain behind after others have gone on", "to hold one's ground", "to await the onset"
- 2) "fight" = αθλησις = "a contest or combat"
- 3) "affliction" = συγκακουχεσθαι = "to be treated ill or to suffer together"

II. They Should Remember Why They Suffered

A. "Partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions;" vs 33

- 1) "gazingstock" = θεατριζω = "to present as a spectacle", "to bring upon the stage" They had been held up to public derision, scoffed and sneered at.
- 2) "reproaches" = ονειδισμος = "defamation", "reviling"
- 3) "afflictions" = θλιψις = "pressure"

a> Inner	e> Economic
b> Peer	f> Social
c> Parental	g> Religious
d> Economic	h> Church
- 4) "By angry words and cruel acts" BAS

B. "...and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used."

- 1) "companions" = κοινωνος = "sharer"
- 2) "...and partly through coming forward to share the sufferings." WEY

III. They Had Shared In Paul's Suffering

A. "For ye had compassion of me in my bonds..." vs 34

- 1) "compassion" = συμπάθεω = "to suffer with another", "to be affected in like manner"
- 2) "bonds" = δεσμος = "a band, anything for tying"
- 3) "For even with those in chains you showed sympathy and understanding."

B. "...and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods..."

- 1) "joyfully" = χαρα = "joy"
- 2) "spoiling" = αρπαγη = "seizing", "plundering"
They had had their property seized by authorities or mobs had plundered their homes.
- 3) "...and cheerfully submitted to the violent seizure of..." WMS

C. "...knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance."

- 1) "enduring" = υπομενω = "to remain under"
- 2) "substance" = υπαρξις = "being", "possession"
- 3) "knowing that you have for yourselves" ASV
- 4) "a better property and one which you would keep forever" BAS
- 5) 11:10 11:16

IV. They Should Not Let Time Steal Their Boldness

A. "Cast not away therefore your confidence..." vs 35

- 1) "cast not away" = αποβαλλω = "to throw away"
- 2) "confidence" = παρρησια = "speaking all one thinks", "boldness", "openness", "frankness", "not timid"
- 3) "Now do not fling away your bold confidence." MON

B. "...which hath great recompense of reward."

- 1) "recompense" = μισθαποδοσια = "full payment of wages", "reward", "total compensation"
- 2) "for it holds a rich reward for you" WMS