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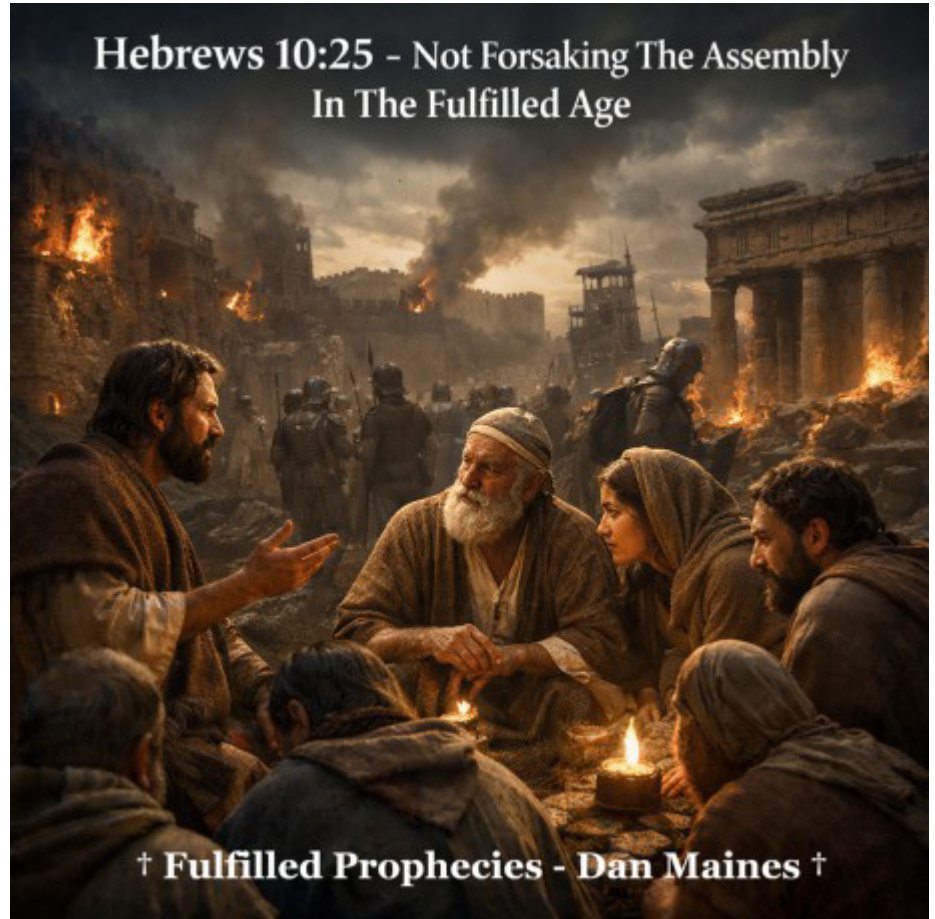
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Hebrews 10:25 - Not Forsaking The Assembly In The Fulfilled Age



By Dan Maines

Hebrews 10:25 - Not Forsaking The Assembly In The Fulfilled Age

Introduction

† Hebrews 10:25 is constantly used today to push church attendance, but when we read it in its full context, it's speaking to a very specific time, a very specific people, and a very specific approaching day.

† The writer of Hebrews was addressing first century believers who were standing at the edge of covenant transition, the Old Covenant was fading, the New Covenant was about to be fully established.

† This verse isn't about modern institutional gatherings, it's about remaining faithful during the final days of the Old Covenant system that was about to vanish.

† The entire letter of Hebrews opens by placing them in the last days of that Old Covenant age, showing the urgency of everything being written (Hebrews 1:2).

Hebrews 10:25

not abandoning our own assembling together, as is the habit of some people, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

† The immediate context shows this is about covenant access and confidence before God, not a weekly meeting structure (Hebrews 10:19-22).

† The "assembling together" was not about attending a weekly building service, it was about remaining united in Christ during a time of intense pressure and persecution (Hebrews 10:23-24).

† Many were being tempted to return to the temple system, the sacrifices, and the Old Covenant practices, this warning was telling them not to abandon the body of Christ for a system that was about to be destroyed (Hebrews 10:1-3).

† "The day drawing near" was not a future end of the world, it was the imminent judgment coming upon Jerusalem in AD 70 (Matthew 24:34).

† The writer makes the timing undeniable by saying it would happen in a very little while, not thousands of years later

(Hebrews 10:37).

† They could literally see the signs of that day approaching, just as Jesus said they would (Luke 21:20-22).

† This was about staying grounded in the New Covenant reality and not drifting back into a system that could no longer give life (Hebrews 8:13).

† The exhortation to encourage one another was critical because the pressure to fall away was real and increasing as that day approached (Hebrews 3:12-14).

Historical References

† Eusebius recorded that believers in Judea fled before the destruction of Jerusalem, showing they recognized the approaching day and remained faithful instead of returning to the temple system (Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.5).

† Josephus described the chaos, famine, and destruction leading up to AD 70, confirming the severity of the judgment that was drawing near (Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6).

† Tacitus also recorded the destruction of Jerusalem, reinforcing that this was a real historical event, not a future global end (Tacitus, Histories 5.13).

† Early Christian writings like the Didache reflect the expectation of imminent fulfillment, showing the early believers lived with urgency consistent with the timing statements in Hebrews (Didache 16).

How it applies to us today

† We're not waiting for that day, it already happened, the Old Covenant system is gone, and the New Covenant is fully

established.

† Today, assembling isn't about a location, it's about our identity and unity in Christ, we're already part of His body (Ephesians 2:19-22).

† We still encourage one another, but not out of fear of a coming destruction like they faced, instead it's because we're living in the fullness of what Christ already accomplished.

† Encouragement still matters, but it's no longer tied to watching for an approaching covenant judgment, it's grounded in the finished work of Christ.

† We don't go back to dead systems, traditions, or man-made religion, because those things were fulfilled and removed (Colossians 2:14).

† Our focus is staying grounded in the finished work of Christ, not trying to rebuild what God already judged and removed.

Q & A Appendix

Q: Does this verse command us to attend church buildings every week?

A: No. The context shows it was about first century believers remaining faithful and not returning to the Old Covenant system as judgment approached (Hebrews 10:1-3, Hebrews 8:13).

Q: What is "the day" in Hebrews 10:25?

A: It is the judgment on Jerusalem in AD 70, which Jesus said would happen in that generation (Matthew 24:34, Luke 21:20-22).

Q: Are believers today still supposed to gather?

A: Yes, but not as a requirement tied to salvation or fear of judgment, we gather in unity as the body of Christ because we

are already established in Him (Ephesians 2:19-22).

Q: Does "assembling together" mean a physical gathering only?

A: No, the focus is covenantal unity in Christ, not a location or building, we are already gathered in Him (Ephesians 2:19-22, Hebrews 12:22-24).

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Hebrews 10:25; Hebrews 10:19-22; Hebrews 10:23-24; Hebrews 10:1-3; Hebrews 10:37; Hebrews 8:13; Hebrews 3:12-14; Hebrews 1:2; Matthew 24:34; Luke 21:20-22; Ephesians 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:22-24; Colossians 2:14

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.5; Josephus, Wars of the Jews Book 6; Tacitus, Histories 5.13; Didache 16

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