CONSIDER HOW TO STIMULATE LOVE

INTRODUCTION: We have divided (Heb.10:22-25) into **three studies** based on three hortatory present subjunctives. The "Subjunctive expresses action which is not really taking place, but which is **objectively possible**."

(Essential of New Testament Greek, pg.107) "The hortatory subjunctive is the use of the first-person plural (**let us**) **to exhort others to join** us in an action." (Essential of New Testament Greek, Pg.108)

Our three studies:

- (Heb.10:22)   Let us draw near with full assurance of **faith.**
- (Heb.10:23)   Let us hold fast the confession of our **hope.**
- **(Heb.10:24-25)   Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds (Two Studies)**

Note the triad of New Covenant virtues of the Christian way of life. (1 Cor.13:13; Col.1:4-5)

Today's lesson will study the **third hortatory subjunctive**. Two studies will come from it:

- One hortatory subjunctive   (Heb.10:24)   Let us consider
- Three present active participles (Heb.10:25)   Not forsaking; encouraging; and drawing near

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This lesson will study three aspects of Consider How to Stimulate Love.

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1. **God chose the Greek word agape to present to the world His supreme and royal love.**

   Jesus announced it to the nation of Israel in (Matt.22:34-40) when a religious lawyer came with a trap questioned – "Which is the great commandment in the Law?" (Matt.22:34)

   Jesus responded with (Deut.6:5) (Shema) [Hear O Israel]. It was Israel's supreme commandment. Jesus called it **the first** because it presented agape love directed to the God side of the Ten Commandments (Matt.22:37-38).

   Then Jesus elevated (Lev.19:18) to **the second** supreme commandment. He presented agape love to the man-side of the Ten Commandments (Matt.22:39).

   He then made a declaration that shocks Jews to this day – "All **the Law** (condemns mankind) (Rom.3:9-10, 19-24; 4:15) and **the Prophets** (Christ saves mankind) (Heb.8:6; 9:14-15; 12:24) **hang on these two commandments**." (Matt.22:40)

   He was presenting the New Covenant superiority over the Old Covenant.

   (Heb.8:13) "By calling this covenant 'New,' He has made the first obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear." (NIV) (Jer.31:31-34)

2. **The application of God's agape love in the Christian way of life brings fulfillment to the whole Law and Prophets (Matt.22:40).**

   (Rom.13:8 "Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; **for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the Law**." (Lev.19:18)

   (Gal.5:14) "For the **whole law is fulfilled in one word**, in the statement, 'You shall **love** your neighbor as yourself.'" (Lev.19:18)

During the Last Supper, Jesus introduced it to His disciples as the <u>New Commandment</u>.

   (John 13:34-35) "**A new commandment I give to you,** <u>that you **love one another**, even as I have loved you</u>, that you also **love one another**. By this <u>all men will know that you are My disciples</u>, **if you have love for one another**."

Remember that the writer of Hebrews is calling all New Covenant priests **to stimulate one another to the standard of God's agape love** (Heb.10:24-25).

3. **God's agape love functions under the New Covenant Grace Operating Assets.**

Because of time constraint, we will mention <u>two</u> that are essential to New Covenant <u>priests stimulating one another to love.</u>

- **First** is the ministry of the Indwelling Holy Spirit regarding agape love (1 Cor.6:19-20; Gal.3:2).
  - We are commanded to c<u>onsistently walking</u> by the power of the Indwelling Holy Spirit. (Gal.5:16-17, 22-23; James 1:14-150
    - Inner-dialogue regarding the process to personal sin; (1 John 1:9).

- **Second** is to <u>consistently walk</u> by the faith cycle; hearing, believing, and applying Categorical Bible Doctrine and allowing God to fulfill His Word in all aspects of one's life.
  - (2 Cor.5:7) "For we walk by faith not by sight." (2 Tim.3:16-17)

Hearing (Rom.10:17)

Impersonal Love (Lev.19:18)   **Personal Love (Deut.6:5)**

Completing (James 2:22)   **Believing** (Heb.4:2)

Applying (2 Cor.5:7)