

# Hebrews 13:17-25

Hebrews 13:17 – “Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

3982 [e]	3588 [e]	2233 [e]	4771 [e]	2532 [e]	5226 [e]	846 [e]	1063 [e]	69 [e]	5228 [e]	3588 [e]	5590 [e]	4771 [e]	5613 [e]	3056 [e]
Peitheasthe	tois	hēgoumenois	hymōn	kai	hypeikete	autoi	gar	agrypnousin	hyper	tōn	psychōn	hymōn	hōs	logon
17 Πείθεσθε	τοῖς	ἡγουμένοις	ὑμῶν ,	καὶ	ὑπέικετε ;	αὐτοῖς	γὰρ	ἀγρυπνοῦσιν	ὑπὲρ	τῶν	ψυχῶν	ὑμῶν ,	ὡς	λόγον
Obey	those	leading	you	and	be submissive	they	for	watch	over	the	souls	of you	as	account
V-PMP-2P	Art-DMP	V-PPM/P-DMP	Pro-G2P	Conj	V-PMA-2P	Pro-NM3P	Conj	V-PIA-3P	Prep	Art-GFP	N-GFP	Pro-G2P	Adv	N-AMS

591 [e]	2443 [e]	3326 [e]	5479 [e]	3778 [e]	4160 [e]	2532 [e]	3361 [e]	4727 [e]	255 [e]	1063 [e]	4771 [e]	3778 [e]
apodōsontes	hina	meta	charas	touto	poiōsin	kai	mē	stenazontes	alysiteles	gar	hymīn	touto
ἀποδώσοντες ;	ἵνα	μετὰ	χαρᾶς	τοῦτο	ποιῶσιν ,	καὶ	μὴ	στενάζοντες ,	ἀλυσιτελεῖς	γὰρ	ὑμῖν	τοῦτο .
about to give	that	with	joy	this	they might do	and	not	groaning	unprofitable	indeed	for you [is]	this
V-FPA-NMP	Conj	Prep	N-GFS	DPro-ANS	V-PSA-3P	Conj	Adv	V-PPA-NMP	Adj-NNS	Conj	Pro-D2P	DPro-NNS

1. These are the second generation of leaders since the first leaders have passed on (13:7)
2. The writer has confidence in these leaders
3. “Keep Watch” means “to be without sleep, to seek after sleep, to be watchful”
4. The leaders, or guides, must give an “account” which is the word αποδωσοντες and means “to give an account, to render account”
5. Philippians 2:16 Paul was considering the day of evaluation as a leader

13:18 – “Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things.

4336 [e]	4012 [e]	1473 [e]	3982 [e]	1063 [e]	3754 [e]	2570 [e]	4893 [e]	2192 [e]	1722 [e]	3956 [e]
Proseuchesthe	peri	hēmōn	peithometha	gar	hoti	kalēn	syneidēsīn	echomen	en	pasin
18 Προσεύχεσθε	περὶ	ἡμῶν ;	πειθόμεθα	γὰρ	ὅτι	καλὴν	συνείδησιν	ἔχομεν ,	ἐν	πᾶσιν
Pray	for	us	we are persuaded	for	that	a good	conscience	we have	in	all things
V-PMM/P-2P	Prep	Pro-G1P	V-PIM/P-1P	Conj	Conj	Adj-AFS	N-AFS	V-PIA-1P	Prep	Adj-DNP

2573 [e]	2309 [e]	390 [e]
kalōs	thelontes	anastrephesthai
καλῶς	θέλοντες	ἀναστρέφεσθαι .
well	desiring	to conduct ourselves
Adv	V-PPA-NMP	V-PNM/P

1. “Pray for us” since the writer was a leader.
2. “Clear Conscience” is reference to him fulfilling his role as a leader. He has done his assigned duty and lived honorably.

13:19 – “I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner.

4057 [e]	1161 [e]	3870 [e]	3778 [e]	4160 [e]	2443 [e]	5032 [e]	600 [e]	4771 [e]
perissoterōs	de	parakalō	touto	poiēsai	hina	tachion	apokatastathō	hymīn
19 περισσοτέρως	δὲ	παρακαλῶ	τοῦτο	ποιῆσαι ,	ἵνα	τάχιον	ἀποκατασταθῶ	ὑμῖν .
More abundantly	now	I exhort [you]	this	to do	so that	more quickly	I may be restored	to you
Adv	Conj	V-PIA-1S	DPro-ANS	V-ANA	Conj	Adj-ANS-C	V-ASP-1S	Pro-D2P

13:20 – “Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,

3588 [e]	1161 [e]	2316 [e]	3588 [e]	1515 [e]	3588 [e]	321 [e]	1537 [e]	3498 [e]	3588 [e]	4166 [e]	3588 [e]	4263 [e]		
Ho	de	Theos	tēs	eirēnēs	ho	anagagōn	ek	nekrōn	ton	poimena	tōn	probatōn		
20	Ὁ	δὲ	Θεὸς	τῆς	εἰρήνης	,	ὁ	ἀναγαγὼν	ἐκ	νεκρῶν	τὸν	ποιμένα	τῶν	προβάτων
	[May] the	now	God	-	of peace	-	having brought	out from	[the] dead	the	Shepherd	of the	sheep	
	Art-NMS	Conj	N-NMS	Art-GFS	N-GFS		Art-NMS	V-APA-NMS	Prep	Art-AMS	N-AMS	Art-GNP	N-GNP	

3588 [e]	3173 [e]	1722 [e]	129 [e]	1242 [e]	166 [e]	3588 [e]	2962 [e]	1473 [e]	2424 [e]			
ton	megan	en	haimati	diathēkēs	aiōniou	ton	Kyrion	hēmōn	lēsun			
τὸν	μέγαν	,	ἐν	αἵματι	διαθήκης	αἰωνίου	,	τὸν	Κύριον	ἡμῶν	Ἰησοῦν	,
-	great	by	[the] blood	of [the] covenant	eternal	the	Lord	of us	Jesus			
Art-AMS	Adj-AMS	Prep	N-DNS	N-GFS	Adj-GFS	Art-AMS	N-AMS	PPro-G1P	N-AMS			

13:21 – “equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

2675 [e]	4771 [e]	1722 [e]	3956 [e]	18 [e]	1519 [e]	3588 [e]	4160 [e]	3588 [e]	2307 [e]		
katartisai	hymas	en	panti	agathō	eis	to	poiēsai	to	thelēma		
21	καταρτίσαι	ὑμᾶς	ἐν	παντὶ	ἀγαθῷ	,	εἰς	τὸ	ποιῆσαι	τὸ	θέλημα
	equip	you	in	everything	good	in order	-	to do	the	will	
	V-AOA-3S	PPro-A2P	Prep	Adj-DNS	Adj-DNS	Prep	Art-ANS	V-ANA	Art-ANS	N-ANS	

846 [e]	4160 [e]	1722 [e]	1473 [e]	3588 [e]	2101 [e]	1799 [e]	846 [e]	1223 [e]	2424 [e]		
autou	poiōn	en	hēmin	to	euareston	enōpion	autou	dia	lēsou		
αὐτοῦ	,	ποιῶν	ἐν	ἡμῖν	τὸ	εὐάρεστον	ἐνώπιον	αὐτοῦ	,	διὰ	Ἰησοῦ
of Him	working	in	us	that which [is]	well pleasing	before	Him	through	Jesus		
PPro-GM3S	V-PPA-NMS	Prep	PPro-D1P	Art-ANS	Adj-ANS	Prep	PPro-GM3S	Prep	N-GMS		

5547 [e]	3739 [e]	3588 [e]	1391 [e]	1519 [e]	3588 [e]	165 [e]	3588 [e]	165 [e]	281 [e]			
Christou	hō	hē	doxa	eis	tous	aiōnas	tōn	aiōnōn	amēn			
Χριστοῦ	,	ᾧ	ἡ	δόξα	εἰς	τοὺς	αἰῶνας	τῶν	αἰώνων	.	ἀμήν	.
Christ	to whom [be]	the	glory	to	the	ages	of the	ages	Amen			
N-GMS	RelPro-DMS	Art-NFS	N-NFS	Prep	Art-AMP	N-AMP	Art-GMP	N-GMP	Heb			

1. This appears to be an established and accepted formula for it has:
  - a. Invocation . . . “Now may the God of peace”
  - b. Basis of the petition . . . “who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus”
  - c. Main Petition . . . “fit you to do his will in everything that is good”
  - d. Secondary Petition . . . “as he brings to pass in us whatever gives him pleasure”
  - e. Mediator by which this is given . . . “through Jesus Christ
  - f. Doxology . . . “to whom be the glory for ever and ever”
  - g. Closing . . . . “Amen”
2. Here we see this blessing based in the content of this book:
  - a. The God of peace has a plan

- i. God is holy and just. His wrath is being poured out
  - 1. Rm. 1:18-19 – “The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.”
- ii. God seeks peace, but the peace can only be established by Jesus
  - 1. John 3:16-21 – “...For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son...(3:17-18)
  - 2. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 – “May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
  - 3. Romans 15:33 – “The god of peace be with you all. Amen.”
- b. The resurrected Lord is the New Covenant
- c. The blood of the covenant
  - i. *en* can be translated “with” or “by”
    - 1. “by” would be instrumental as in “through” or “as the result of his sacrificial death”
    - 2. These things result from the blood of Christ:
      - a. Jesus is brought back from the dead
      - b. The New Covenant is in effect because of the blood of Christ
      - c. God equips and works in us for his will and pleasure
- d. Jesus is the leader, the pioneer, the shepherd of us, the sheep
  - i. Jesus has already been called:
    - 1. The “pioneer of their salvation”, “founder”, or “trail blazer” in Hebrews 2:10:
      - a. “In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered.
    - 2. the author and perfecter of our faith in Hebrews 12:2
  - ii. Jesus called himself the shepherd in John 10 (possibly building off of Zechariah 14:7-17; 13:7-9; see Mark 14:27)
    - 1. Zechariah 13:15 and 17 – “Then the Lord said to me, “Take once more the equipment of a foolish shepherd... Woe to my worthless shepherd, who deserts the flock! May the sword strike his arm and his right eye!
    - 2. Zechariah 13:7 – “Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, against the man who stands next to me,” declares the Lord of hosts. “Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered; I will turn my hand against the little ones.
    - 3. Mark 14:27 – “And Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’”
    - 4. 1 Peter 5:2,4 – “shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight...when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.”
    - 5. John 10:1-21
- e. The eternal covenant and the blood of the eternal covenant

- i. The focus on “eternal” here is in comparison with the old, temporal covenant that has passed away.
  - ii. This new covenant will never pass away
  - iii. This new covenant will never be replaced by something newer or better.
  - f. Equip us with everything good to be able to do God’s will
  - g. Working in us what is pleasing to God
  - h. All through Jesus Christ
  - i. Eternal glory to Jesus Christ for who he is and what he makes possible
    - i. The alpha and omega, the beginning and the end, for ever and ever God reigns.
3. Leading us in our lives to:
- a. Do God’s will
  - b. Do Good
  - c. Do whatever pleases God

**Personal Closing:**

13:22 – “I appeal to you, brothers, bear with my word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly.

3870 [e]	1161 [e]	4771 [e]	80 [e]	430 [e]	3588 [e]	3056 [e]	3588 [e]	3874 [e]	2532 [e]	1063 [e]
Parakalō	de	hymas	adelphoi	anechesthe	tou	logou	tēs	paraklēseōs	kai	gar
22 Παρακαλῶ	δὲ	ὑμᾶς	, ἀδελφοί	, ἀνέχεσθε	τοῦ	λόγου	τῆς	παρακλήσεως	; καὶ	γὰρ
I exhort	now	you	brothers	bear with	the	word	-	of exhortation	only	for
V-PIA-1S	Conj	PPro-A2P	N-VMP	V-PMM/P-2P	Art-GMS	N-GMS	Art-GFS	N-GFS	Conj	Conj

1223 [e]	1024 [e]	1989 [e]	4771 [e]
dia	bracheōn	epesteila	hymin
διὰ	βραχέων	ἐπέστειλα	ὑμῖν .
in	few words	I have written	to you
Prep	Adj-GMP	V-AIA-1S	PPro-D2P

1. The writer of this letter is a leader at some level in the church he is addressing
2. It is possible that when Timothy went to see Paul in Rome (2 Tim.4:9-13) he himself was arrested.
  - a. after Paul’s execution Nero committed suicide in summer of 68 AD.
  - b. Often an emperor’s political enemies were released from prison upon their death or assassination.
  - c. Timothy may have been released at this time which puts the writing of this book around 68 AD.
3. “exhortation”
  - a. “exhortation” – *paraklasis* – is “a calling to one’s aid” and means “imploration, supplication, entreaty, admonition, encouragement, consolation, comfort, solace”
  - b. Acts 13:15 Paul and Barnabas provided a “word of exhortation” in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch
  - c. When compared to a sermon or homily (which this is) we could consider it short. It can be read out loud in less than an hour. It does seem like a long letter, but it is first a sermon. But, it closes like a letter.
  - d. This “letter” would take about an hour to read out loud to an assembly if it were read as a sermon or homily.

- e. Acts 4:36 – “Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles’ feet.”

2501 [e]	1161 [e]	3588 [e]	1941 [e]	921 [e]	575 [e]	3588 [e]	652 [e]	3739 [e]	1510 [e]
Iōsēph	de	ho	epiklētheis	Barnabas	apo	tōn	apostolōn	ho	estin
36 Ἰωσήφ	δὲ	ὁ	ἐπικληθεὶς	Βαρνάβας	ἀπὸ	τῶν	ἀποστόλων	ὃς	ἐστίν
Joseph	now	-	having been called	Barnabas	by	the	apostles	which	is
N-NMS	Conj	Art-NMS	V-APP-NMS	N-NMS	Prep	Art-GMP	N-GMP	RelPro-NNS	V-PIA-3S

3177 [e]	5207 [e]	3874 [e]	3019 [e]	2953 [e]	3588 [e]	1085 [e]
methermēneuomenon	Huios	paraklēseōs	Leuitēs	Kyprios	tō	genei
μεθερμηνευόμενον	Υἱὸς	παρακλήσεως	Λευίτης	, Κύπριος	τῷ	γένει ,
translated	Son	of encouragement	a Levite	a Cypriot	at the	birth
V-PPM/P-NNS	N-NMS	N-GFS	N-NMS	N-NMS	Art-DNS	N-DNS

- i. “barnabas” actually is **bar** (“son”) plus **nbiy** (“a prophet” /neb-ee/)
- ii. The word for “translated” in Acts 4:36 means “to translate” and “to interpret”, so Barnabus’ name may not have been a directly translated “son of encouragement”, but the person that he was is interpreted to be son of encouragement”.
- iii. Jews often called a person "son of \_\_\_\_" in order to denote his or her characteristics

13:23 – “You should know that our brother Timothy has been released, with whom I shall see you if he comes soon.

1097 [e]	3588 [e]	80 [e]	1473 [e]	5095 [e]	630 [e]	3326 [e]	3739 [e]	1437 [e]	5032 [e]
Ginōskete	ton	adelphon	hēmōn	Timotheon	apolelymenon	meth'	hou	ean	tachion
23 Γινώσκετε	τὸν	ἀδελφὸν	ἡμῶν	Τιμόθεον	ἀπολελυμένον ,	μεθ'	οὗ	ἐὰν	τάχιον
You know	the	brother	of us	Timothy	has been released	with	whom	if	sooner
V-PIA-2P	Art-AMS	N-AMS	PPro-G1P	N-AMS	V-RPM/P-AMS	Prep	RelPro-GMS	Conj	Adj-ANS-C

2064 [e]	3708 [e]	4771 [e]
erchētai	opsomai	hymas
ἔρχεται ,	ὄψομαι	ὑμᾶς .
he should come	I will see	you
V-PSM/P-3S	V-FIM-1S	PPro-A2P

1. “You should know” could be indicative or imperative meaning the author could be reminding them of something they already know or giving them new information.
2. If Timothy is in Rome then this letter is being sent from Rome to somewhere else.
3. The best we have is extra biblical church tradition concerning Timothy after we see him in Ephesus in Second Timothy:
  - a. Timothy remained in Ephesus for the rest of his life. (Paul urged Timothy to stay in Ephesus and fight the false teaching there when he wrote in 1 Timothy 1:3)
  - b. He was martyred for his faith
  - c. Ephesus is the traditional burial place of Timothy
  - d. Other accounts say Timothy was martyred after the exile of John during the reign of Domitian in 97 AD at the age of 80

- e. A couple accounts record that Timothy was beaten while rebuking the procession of a festival of idolatry by calling it ridiculous and calling them to turn them to the true God.
  - f. Ultimately, we do not know for sure Timothy's final days
4. The author and Timothy were close associates.
  5. Timothy is the ONLY Christian mentioned by name in this letter. (Others names are Jesus and OT characters.)

13:24 – **Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those who come from Italy send you greetings.**

782 [e]	3956 [e]	3588 [e]	2233 [e]	4771 [e]	2532 [e]	3956 [e]	3588 [e]	40 [e]	782 [e]
Aspasasthe	pantas	tous	hēgoumenous	hymōn	kai	pantas	tous	hagious	Aspazontai
24 Ἀσπάσασθε	πάντας	τοὺς	ἡγουμένους	ὑμῶν	, καὶ	πάντας	τοὺς	ἁγίους	Ἀσπάζονται
Greet	all	those	leading	you	and	all	the	saints	Greet
V-AMM-2P	Adj-AMP	Art-AMP	V-PPM/P-AMP	PPro-G2P	Conj	Adj-AMP	Art-AMP	Adj-AMP	V-PIM/P-3P

4771 [e]	3588 [e]	575 [e]	3588 [e]	2482 [e]
hymas	hoi	apo	tēs	Italias
ὑμᾶς	, οἱ	ἀπὸ	τῆς	Ἰταλίας .
you	those	from	-	Italy
PPro-A2P	Art-NMP	Prep	Art-GFS	N-GFS

1. Greetings are sent to all the leaders of the house churches and to all the believers meeting in those homes for services.
  - a. The house church would have had several leaders
  - b. This letter is most likely sent to a “leader” which means the other leaders in the house church are to be greeted
  - c. Or, it could refer to the many leaders in several house churches.
  - d. A focus on unity and consistency in doctrine and practice were important in the early days of the church (as should be true always)
2. “Those from Italy” or “Those who come from Italy” can mean:
  - a. Those who are living in Italy
    - i. This is a very likely translation, but the original Greek is ambiguous.
  - b. Those who are originally from Italy, but living now at the location the author of this letter is residing or visiting is also a legitimate understanding of this verse.
    - i. This would mean they are not in Italy and not in Rome, but somewhere outside Italy.

13:25 – **Grace be with all of you.**

3588 [e]	5485 [e]	3326 [e]	3956 [e]	4771 [e]	281 [e]
Hē	charis	meta	pantōn	hymōn	Amēn
25 Ἡ	χάρις	μετὰ	πάντων	ὑμῶν	. Ἀμήν .
-	Grace [be]	with	all	of you	Amen
Art-NFS	N-NFS	Prep	Adj-GMP	PPro-G2P	Heb

1. The book closes with a final benediction that is also a prayer
2. The author is asking that the readers receive strength by grace to preserve:

- a. Hebrews 2:9 – “But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the **grace** of God he might taste death for everyone.”
  - b. Hebrews 4:16 – “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of **grace**, that we may receive mercy and find **grace** to help in time of need.”
  - c. Hebrews 10:29 – “How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of **grace**?”
  - d. Hebrews 12:15 – “See to it that no one fails to obtain the **grace** of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled;
  - e. Hebrews 13:9 – “Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by **grace**, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them.”
3. Continue in faith and worship in an acceptable way – based in the New Covenant
  4. “Amen” – meaning “verily”, “truly” and placed here at the end of the sentence it means: “so let be it”