

Sunday September 18th 2011
The Letter to the Hebrews
Part Seventeen
Study Questions

1). Heb 5:12 *For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again* What contrasts are given to us in Hebrews 5:12-13 to show the extent of the recipients' regression to spiritual immaturity?

a). What might we know about them before their regression and what would this say about us?

b). According to the second warning in Hebrews Chapter 3 what is the sin that is so deceitful?

c). Why do you think that we may be so easily deceived by it?

2). 2Ti 2:15 *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.* What does this scripture from 2 Timothy admonish us to do?

a). What would it take to comply with this admonition?

b). What scripture did we look at in 2 Peter in connection with this and what did it teach us?

c). Why do we need to be vigilant and what does 1 Peter Chapter 5 have to say about it?

d). What does it take to be steadfast in the faith and what part if any does the Sunday message and accompanying Bible study play in this?

e). What scripture did we look at out of Ephesians Chapter 4 that demonstrates God's provision for us in this?

3). - Heb 6:1 ¶ *Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection,* According to Chapter 6 v1 what 2 things are the recipients of this letter required to do?

a). What should we understand from the word 'leaving'?

b). Are the 'first principles of the oracles of God' from Chapter 5 and the 'elementary principles of Christ' from Chapter 6 one and the same and how would we know?

c). What might the 'first principles of the oracles of God' refer to?

d). Where might we find a clue as to the 'elementary principles of Christ'?

e). So what things are not to be laid again in foundation?

f). Read Hebrews 9:6-12, Hebrews 10:19-23 and Colossians 2 16:-23

g). How do these scriptures help explain the 'elementary principles'?

h). What would these look like in the church today?

i). What would be the self-evident truth concerning those who cling to religious ritual?

j). What does the verb translated 'go on' tell us?

k). How is that which this verb teaches consistent with that which we know about the work of the Holy Spirit?

l). What scripture did we look at in connection with this?

m). What does all this say to you personally?

4). *3 And this we will do if God permits.*

a). What would be done 'if God permits'?

b). Why would God not permit?

c). Read Deuteronomy 9:23 and Numbers 14:39-42 – What does the example of Israel teach us about this?

5). *Heb 6:3 And this we will do if God permits. 4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance,*

a). What does the word translated 'impossible' mean?

b). What do v4-5 tell us about the experience of the hypothetical Christians here?

c). Read Numbers 13:21-25 – how is this a parallel with that which we see from our verses in Hebrews 6?

d). What do the words translated ‘fall away’ tell us?

e). What does it mean that it would be impossible ‘to renew them again to repentance’?

f). Heb 6:6 *if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.*

g). According to our verse what is the reason for this?

h). What does it mean to ‘crucify again for themselves the Son of God and put Him to an open shame’?

i). What does this tell you about the reason God may or may not permit the original recipients of this letter to go on to perfection?

j). So what should we learn here with respect to ourselves?

k). What other scriptural example did we look at that shows the same thing?

6). So all in all what do you learn about this third warning and how do you feel about it?