

Sunday September 25th 2011
The Letter to the Hebrews
Part Eighteen
Study Questions

1). Heb 6:1 ¶ *Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection,* What are the recipients of this letter admonished to do and why are they admonished to do it?

- a). What statement is then made after this?
- b). Why is this statement made?

2). *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,* What do these verses have to do with and what can they not possibly have to do with?

- a). What would it mean to be enlightened and what scripture did we look at that explains for us what this means?
- b). What does the word ‘tasted’ tell us and what scripture did we look at that would explain what the heavenly gift is?
- c). What does it mean to be a partaker of the Holy Spirit and how should we understand this?

d). What does it mean to have tasted the good word of God?

e). How should we understand the powers of the age to come and what scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

f). What 2 things does our list here in Chapter 6 tell us about those who would have this experience?

g). In what way would they be similar to Israel at Kadesh Barnea?

h). How would they have accessed things concerning the heavenly land?

i). What would you say is your own experience with regards to the five things listed in our verses?

j). If we have attained to this level of maturity what warning do we need to take to heart?

k). What is the difference between what is stated in the warning and our daily struggle with sin?

3). Explain how these first 3 warnings in Hebrews progressively work together.

a). Despite that which is described in these warnings, how does God remain consistent throughout?

b). What would you conclude from this?

4). Heb 6:7 *For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God; 8 but if it bears thorns and briars, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned.*

- a). What would we say about the ‘earth’ and the ‘rain’ in these 2 verses?
- b). Where then do we find any difference?
- c). With regards to our context here in Hebrews what does ‘the earth’ represent? And what does the rain represent?
- d). Where does the writer draw the imagery from for these verses?
- e). Where is the first time we see land in connection with fruitfulness and barrenness and what would we learn from it from the scriptures?
- f). Read Jeremiah 44:22 and Hosea 6:1-3 – what does this tell us and about whom?
- g). How is this similar to that which we see in Genesis?
- h). So what would you say, simply, that we learn from this?

5). Read James 5:7-8 – what do these verses add to those which we have just studied?

- a). How is the idea of cultivation tied into this?
- b). So, according to James, what does fruit production in our lives require?

c). What did Psalm 1 teach us about this?

d). What does it take to be established and what scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

e). What do the ideas of cultivation, fruitfulness and being established bring us back to, which we had studied last week?

f). What scriptures do we have from the gospels that demonstrate this?

6). Heb 6:8 *but if it bears thorns and briars, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned.* How should we understand this with respect to the experience of a Christian?

a). What scripture did we look at that describes the same event?

b). Can you think of any scripture from previous studies we have done that describe this same thing?

c). How do you think the accounts of Ruth and Orpah and Abraham and Lot would fit into the overall scope of that which we have learned today?

d). Can you think of any more examples?

7). Any final thoughts?

