

The Epistle to the Hebrews

Hebrews 5:11 – 6:20

- Questions

1. Who or what was the writer referring to as being “hard of interpretation” (5:11)?
2. What had become of the brethren to whom the author was writing (5:11)?
3. What did these brethren need (5:12)?
4. Who partakes of milk and who partakes of solid food (5:13-14)? What makes one full-grown or mature (5:14)?
5. What admonition does the author give to these brethren (6:1-3) and why is it so important for them to heed this admonition (6:4-8)?
6. What are the six “first principles” that the author lists (6:1-2)?
7. What are the five traits given by the author that shows he is talking about a child of God (6:4-5)?
8. What happens to some brethren that shows the importance of pressing on to maturity (6:6)?
9. What illustration from agriculture does the author use to describe the spiritual state of apostate brethren (6:7-8)?
10. What four admonitions are given to the brethren in 6:9-12?
 - (1) Verse 9 –
 - (2) Verse 10 –
 - (3) Verse 11 –
 - (4) Verse 12 –
11. Who is the OT character that is cited as an example of patiently enduring in order to receive God’s promise (6:13-15)?

12. What purpose is served by swearing in oaths taken by men and by God (6:16-17)?
13. What description of God's character is displayed in his promise and his oath (the "two immutable things") and what encouragement does that give Christians (6:18)?
14. What is hope like for the Christian and where is it anchored (6:19)?
15. Where did Jesus go for us and what role does he have on behalf of Christians (6:20)?

- Digging Deeper

1. What does "perfection" (KJV) mean in 6:1?
2. Why is it "impossible" for these apostates to repent (6:6; see also 3:12 and 10:26)?
3. Where is the OT reference that speaks of God swearing by himself in promise to Abraham (6:13-14)? How long in years did Abraham have to patiently wait and endure before God's promises to him were fulfilled (6:15; Gen. 12:4; 21:5; 22:16-17)?

- Applications for Today

1. Brethren who become "dull of hearing" need to grow and press on to maturity through study, application, and the teaching of God's word (5:11 – 6:1; 1 Pet. 2:1-2; 2 Pet. 1:5-8).
2. Spiritually immature and inexperienced brethren who will not grow in the knowledge and application of God's word are "babes" (5:13; 1 Cor. 3:1; Eph. 4:14). Mature, full-grown brethren are knowledgeable and discerning (5:14; Eph. 4:13).
3. The Bible does not teach "once saved always saved". Christians can and do fall away (6:4-6; Gal. 5:4).
4. Christians need to show their work and love in service toward their brethren (6:10; 1 Thess. 1:3; 1 Jn. 3:17-18)
5. Christians need to imitate those who patiently (steadfastly) endure to the end in order to receive the promise of heaven (6:12,15; Rom. 5:3-5; 1 Thess. 1:4; James 1:3-4).
6. Christians can hope in God's promises because God does not lie (6:18; Tit. 1:2).
7. The Christian's hope is like an anchor of the soul, anchored in heaven (6:19-20; Rom. 8:25).