

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 07 Sep Hebrews 1:1-14 Who Is Jesus?
- 2) 14 Sep Hebrews 2:1-13 Pay Attention
- 3) 21 Sep Hebrews 2:14-18 Why One of Us?
- 4) 28 Sep Hebrews 3:1-19 Watch Out!
- 5) 05 Oct Hebrews 4-5 Secured with Confidence
- 6) 12 Oct Hebrews 6:1-20 Don't Walk Away
- 7) 19 Oct Hebrews 7:1-28 Only Jesus Saves
- 8) 26 Oct Hebrews 8:1-13 Only Jesus Transforms
- 9) 02 Nov Hebrews 9:1-28 The Perfect Offering
- 10) 09 Nov Hebrews 10-11 Faith Defined
- 11) 16 Nov Hebrews 12:1-7 The Discipline of Suffering
- 12) 23 Nov Hebrews 12:18-29 A New Kind of Community
- 13) 30 Nov Hebrews 13:1-25 Living Out the Faith

INTRODUCTION

- We move from talking about milk or “elementary teachings” of Christianity to more grandiose concepts of the New Covenant

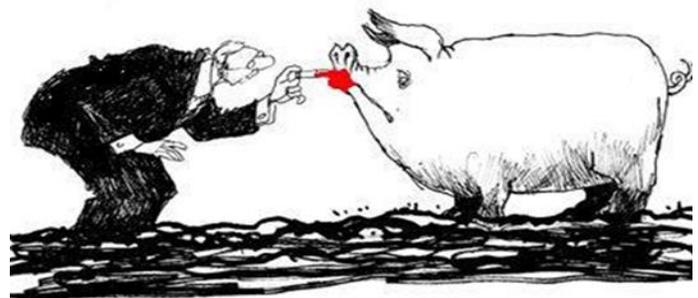
Passage	Comments
Hebrews 6:1-3	<p>Grow in Faith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The author stresses the difference between basic elements of Christianity that we all need to know that grounds us, and the deeper elements of our faith that promote maturity. • vv1-2. The 6 elementary teachings are: 1) Repentance, 2) Dead Works, 3) Faith, 4) Washings/Baptism, 5) Laying on of Hands (for service); and 6) Resurrection and Judgment • v3. “And this will we do, if God permits” – Since God allowed this letter to be completed, He permitted the author to proceed teaching the deeper issues that promote maturity. These deeper issues are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Chapter 6 – There are tares among the wheat, and God’s immutability gives us strong encouragement to be bold for Him ♦ Chapter 7 – The priesthood of Christ (after the order of Melchizedek) assures us of our salvation, which promotes boldness ♦ Chapter 8 – The New Covenant opens up new promises ♦ Chapter 9 – Christ’s second coming will culminate our salvation ♦ Chapter 10 - We are perfected for all time through Christ’s death ♦ Chapter 11 – By Faith in Christ we can accomplish anything ♦ Chapter 12 – We are perfected through trials and discipline ♦ Chapter 13 – This chapter stresses more basic teachings such as love of others, hospitality, strong marriages, sharing/giving.
Main Doctrines of Christianity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We only have about a dozen major teachings in Scripture. Everything else is basically an elaboration on these essentials: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theology – Doctrine of God 2. Christology – Doctrine of Christ 3. Pneumatology – Doctrine of the Holy Spirit 4. Anthropology – Doctrine of Man 5. Hamartiology – Doctrine of Sin 6. Soteriology – Doctrine of Salvation 7. Ecclesiology – Doctrine of the Church 8. Angelology – Doctrine of Angels 9. Eschatology – Doctrine of Last Things 10. Bibliology – Doctrine of the Scriptures 11. Heaven-ology – Doctrine of Heaven and Hell 12. Creation-ology – Doctrine of the Physical Universe
6:4-8	<p>Don't Walk Away</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 3 common interpretations of this difficult passage <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Backslidden believers who lose their salvation; 2. False believers whose true colors come out; or 3. Hypothetical argument that shows how unthinkable it is for true believers to retreat from their faith • I personally believe this passage alludes to false believers (dogs who return to their vomit or pigs who return to the mud) such as Judas, Demas, and those who left the church in 1John 2:19, because they were never part of the body of Christ
Tragedy of Easy Believers	<p>Sometimes we make it too easy to get “saved,” to be baptized, and to become church members. We actually do a disservice to the people who only want a quick & easy fire insurance policy, and to the Church who’s looking to increase numbers of confessions and baptisms, and to the cause of Christ which calls for true disciples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People think they are saved by following a formula (walk the aisle and recite a prayer with no true repentance from their sins and no obedience to God’s word beyond that point) • We think they are saved because they followed the formula • And not until they fail to return or they leave following the first major problem they encounter do we realize their fate is possibly sealed from ever coming to Christ due to an irreversible hardened heart

Passage	Comments
6:7-8	<p>Agricultural Analogy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v7. This is a good illustration of a fruitful life, where some may bear 30x, 60x, or 100 fold • v8. In contrast, this is a barren field. If this is a picture of backslidden believer “it is close to being cursed” or disciplined by God. If this is a picture of a non-believer, then they can be expected to be collected to be burned as tares that grow up next to the wheat stalks.. Mt 13:30
A Word on Eternal Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we believe that we can lose our salvation, we can find Scriptures which seem to fit that position, and Hebrews 6 seemingly fits it quite well for most Pentecostals, Methodists, and Nazarenes • If we believe that we can get saved and unsaved multiple times, Hebrews 6 won’t fit that position too well, since it is “impossible to renew them again” [e.g., Wesleyans] • If we believe in the eternal security of the believer (i.e., once saved, always saved) as most Baptists do, then Hebrews 6 fits quite well – if we realize that “those who fall away” are tares or unbelievers who were never really part of the body of Christ anyway 1John 2:19 • Confirmation of our salvation includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ We can KNOW absolutely we are saved through the Scriptures. We do not have to guess at it or assume it 1John 5:13 ♦ We are SEALED by the Holy Spirit, and we are sealed after we believe, not after we die, and it cannot be undone since it is past (aorist) tense Eph 1:13 ♦ Jesus is able to save us to the UTTERMOST since He is a High Priest forever who constantly intercedes for us.....Heb 7:25 ♦ We are legally ADOPTED as children of God, and He will never unadopt us or unseal us or disown us Rom 8:15 ♦ We are not big enough to jump out of God’s hands ... Rom 8:38-39 • WARNING -- WARNING -- WARNING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ If we, as a true believer, choose to backslide, it is God’s prerogative as a loving and holy Father to severely discipline us and even take us home early, BUT He won’t disown us.....1Cor 11:30
6:9-12	<p>Imitate the Faithful</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv9-10. The author conveys that God has taken note of their works of love for Him, and better things/blessings are expected to happen • v11. Diligence in obedience is stressed. What would this diligence look like in our lives? • v12. The author makes a statement for us to imitate those who are living by Faith, and who possibly have received their ultimate reward as martyrs. This will be expounded in Chapter 11 – The Hall of Faith
6:13-20	<p>God’s Immutability Gives us Boldness in Our Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv13-16. God was faithful in the OT, so we can expect Him to be just as faithful in the New Covenant • vv17-18. Two unchangeable characteristics of God: 1) His purpose/goals are solid; and 2) He keeps His promises (oaths) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This conveys that GOD CANNOT LIE. As Titus 1:2 confirms for us, “In hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised before the world began”

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS / BENEFITS

- This passage started off with warnings about being infantile in our Christian walk. We need to move on to maturity by growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2Peter 3:18) – Which is the “strong meat” of the Gospel.
- Even Paul said. “For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified”1Corinthians 2:2

NEXT WEEK: Hebrews 7. The priesthood of Christ (after the order of Melchizedek) assures us of our salvation, which promotes boldness in service, since we have nothing to lose and everything to gain



Until someone chooses to follow Christ so He can make him a “new creature” the best we can do is to put lipstick on a pig...2 Corinthians 5:17