

HEBREWS RECAP

Recap

Jesus as our Great High Priest; 2 distinctives

- Source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him
- Priest in order of Melchizedek

2 commands flowing from truth that Jesus is our High Priest

- Let us hold fast to the faith we profess (our confession)
- Let us approach throne of grace with confidence so we can receive mercy and find grace in our time of need



HEBREWS 5:1-6:8



The Congregation

Is	Should be
Infants	Mature
Drinking milk	Eating solid food
Needing to be taught elementary truths of God's Word	Teaching others
Not acquainted with teaching about righteousness – inexperience, unskilled, unpracticed in determining good/evil	Those who through constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good/evil – believers who through practice/exercise have trained/disciplined their capacity for discernment to differentiate good/evil



HEBREWS 5:11-6:8

Who is being addressed?

- Christians; people described as:
 - **Having once been enlightened** – way of speaking about initial positive response to Gospel (see 10.32)
 - **Tasted the heavenly gift** – experienced salvation
 - **Shared in the Holy Spirit** – indicates a close association with the Holy Spirit; already been told we are ‘sharers in the heavenly gift’ and ‘we have come to share in Christ’
 - **Tasted the goodness of the Word of God and the powers of the coming Age** – experienced the moral soundness of teachings of the King/Kingdom and experienced signs/wonders/miracles of Jesus’ rule/reign (see 2.4)





HEBREWS 5:11-6:8

What does it mean to ‘fall away?’

- To fail to follow through on a commitment
- Refers to apostasy – act of abandoning previously held beliefs

What does it mean for it to be ‘impossible’ for these people who have fallen away to ‘be brought back to repentance?’

- **Impossible** – strong word; ‘incapable of happening;’
- **Brought back** – renew/restore
- **Repentance** – to change our minds leading to a change in behavior; to move from disagreement with God to agreement with God resulting in walking in a new direction

Abandoning our convictions about who Jesus is (Savior, Son of God, High Priest, Messiah, etc.) aligns us with religious leaders who also rejected Him – we can’t receive forgiveness if we reject the Forgiver.



HEBREWS 5:11-6:8



- **Rain often falling on it** – God is raining on ground frequently
- Parable of soils – fruitfulness determined by quality of soil (condition of the heart)
- **John 15** –
 - **Fruitfulness** – abiding in Jesus results in fruitfulness
 - **Fruitlessness** – failure to abide in Jesus results in fruitlessness which leads to being cut off, withering, and being thrown into the fire





HEBREWS 5:11-6:8

Let us be taken forward to maturity

- Maturity – described in 5.14 as training our sense of discernment to be able to distinguish good/evil
- Let us be taken forward – passive verb; ultimately
 - this is work of the Holy Spirit in us – He is our Trainer/Coach
 - this is work of Word in us – it is the standard of good/evil
- Ask the Lord to increase our desire to grow in maturity





HEBREWS 5:11-6:8

Father, we acknowledge Your great love for us and we are confident that nothing – neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation – will be able to separate us from Your love.

We also confess that our disobedience, our disappointments, and our distractions draw us away from You and Your love.

Confess your sins.

Acknowledge your disappointments.

Name your idols – that which pulls your attention from Him.

Father, help us to rest in Your love.

