



Lesson 27

Theme: Babies to Teachers (Part 1)

Scripture: Hebrews 6:1

Pressing Forward into 2022 (Handout Discipleship Homework 17-18)

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

(Romans 15:4)

A Difficult Portion of Scripture (Hebrews 5:11-6:12)

- One will find MANY interpretations to this section.
→ See 2 Peter 3:14-18
- This passage is an **EXCELLENT** passage to demonstrate the **NECESSITY** for **diligent** and **careful** Bible study. **Meditate on 2 Timothy 2:15.**
- Though the primary warning is to UNBELIEVING JEWS, so-called Christians and actual Christians, today can LEARN from this very serious warning. Remember Christ's teachings in Matthew 13:20-22.
- **DIFFICULTY is RELATIVE.** What is DIFFICULT for a BABY is NOT DIFFICULT for a MATURE ADULT. **MEDIATE!**
- The **WHOLE BOOK** of Hebrews is written to EXHORT not COMFORT.
- The Holy Spirit moved the writer not to "pamper" these Christians suffering MUCH tribulation and persecutions **BUT** to awaken them and push them forward in the faith - despite their sufferings.

Warnings in the Book of Hebrews

- ① **DANGER** of Neglect (Hebrews 2:1-4)
- ② **DANGER** of Unbelief (Hebrews 3:7-4:13)
- ③ **DANGER** of Not Maturing (Hebrews 5:11-6:20)

- ④ **DANGER** of Drawing Back (Hebrews 10:26-39)
- ⑤ **DANGER** of Refusing God (Hebrews 12:25-29)

What Do You Call One Who Ignores Warnings?

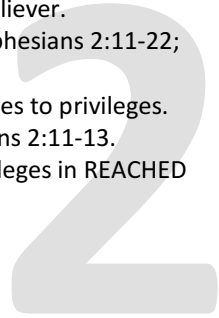
- Consider Matthew 7:24-29.

THEREFORE . . . (Hebrews 6:1)

- The Greek word is $\delta\iota\omicron$ {dee-o'} which can be translated – therefore; wherefore; for this reason; for which cause; on account of.
- This word **CONNECTS** 5:11-14 with what is immediately before us.
 - The word “principles” in 6:1 is the same word in 5:12 translated “first”.
 - The word “discussion” (NKJ) in 6:1 is the singular form of the word in 5:12 translated “oracles”.
 - The word “perfection” in 6:1 is the same word in 5:14 translated “of full age”.
- **THEREFORE . . .** the writer is saying “**in view of all that has already been said**” (chapters 1-5) it is time to go unto **THE PERFECTION**.

What Have We Already Heard

- Remember Hebrews 12:1-2; James 1:21-22; Matthew 7:21; 12:50
- The **OVERALL THEME** of Hebrews is to demonstrate the **SUPERIORITY** of Christianity over Judaism and a warning of **APOSTASY**.
 - ➔ Christ is superior to the **PROPHETS**. (Hebrews 1:1-3)
 - ➔ Christ is superior to the **ANGELS**. (Hebrews 1:4-2:18)
 - ➔ Christ is superior to **MOSES**. (Hebrews 3:1-19)
 - ➔ Christ is superior to Joshua (Hebrews 4:1-16)
 - ➔ Christ is superior to Aaron (Hebrews 5:1-14)
- The writer is writing to **JEWS** – believers and unbelievers.
 - ★ **REMINDER:** When it comes to salvation there is no difference between a Jewish believer and a Gentile believer.
 - Romans 3:22-23; 10:12; Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 2:11-22; 3:1-12; Colossians 3:11
 - ☆ **HOWEVER:** There is a difference when it comes to privileges.
 - See Romans 9:4-5 in contrast to Ephesians 2:11-13.
 - Just as there **TODAY** a difference of privileges in **REACHED** nations and **UNREACHED** nations.
 - **MEDITATE: Luke 12:48**



- There was a TEMPTATION for some who had heard the GOSPEL of Jesus the Christ to TURN AWAY and RETURN to Judaism.
- We will LEARN that these Jews had heard and experienced much.
- The reason they were considering TURNING AWAY back to Judaism was that there was an INCREASE of persecution among those who fully converted to Christianity. Let us learn: Matthew 13:20-22 in contrast with Romans 8:35-39.
- We will learn that these, those thinking about turning back, had heard, learned, and experienced very much of and about Christianity.
- The writer of Hebrews is making the ARGUMENT that this would be a very FOOLISH thing to do.
- This writer was exhorting his audience to:
 - ① Leave the ceremonies, feasts, sacrifices, and symbols of Judaism for the FULFILLMENT of all of these – Jesus the Christ.
 - ② Leave the SHADOW for the SUBSTANCE.
 - ③ Leave the VISIBLE for the INVISIBLE.
 - ④ Leave SIGHT and walk by FAITH.
 - ⑤ Leave TRADITION for TRUTH.
 - ⑥ SEE and SAVOR Christ above everything else (Philippians 3:7-11).
SEE Christ's WORTH!
- These Jews can be compared to MANY TODAY that have heard and experienced much in Christianity but when trials, troubles, temptations, and persecution come they abandon all that they have heard and experienced. See Matthew 13:20-22.

Having Left (Hebrews 6:1)

- The word "leaving" (NKJ); "let us leave" (ESV; NIV) is AORIST in the Greek – which is equivalent to our English PAST tense. Literally, it should read: "**having left**"; or "**since you have already left**". The Hebrews had ALREADY left the "*elementary teachings of Christ*" – to them the writer is exhorting NOT to return.
- This a clear danger of those who *become dull in hearing*. They will *drift backwards!* (Hebrews 5:11; 2:1-3)
 - The word is ἀφίημι *aphiemi* {af-ee'-ay-mee} which has the meaning of a certain separation and total detachment from something.
 - In 1 Corinthians 7:11-13, this word is translated divorce.
 - In Mark 1:20, Mark uses it to describe James and John departing from their father to follow Jesus.

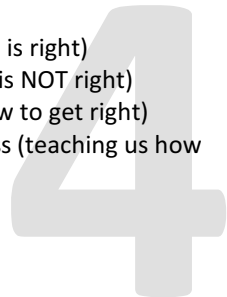
- The same word is used for forgiveness of sins in Matthew 9:2, 5, 6; Romans 4:7; James 5:15.
- In Matthew 15:14, Matthew uses it to speak of us separating ourselves from false teachers.

“The beginning of the Christ Discussion” (v. 1)

- In the Old Testament, two things stand out concerning Christ:
 - ① The PROPHECIES concerning Christ.
 - See John; Luke 24:25-27, 32-32, 44-47; Acts 10:21-26, 43; 13:27-30.
 - Matthew 5:17; John 5:39, 40, 46, 47; 13:14; 21:42; 26:56; Luke 4:20-21; 22:37; John 15:25
 - Christ is the FULFILMENT of over 300 prophecies concerning His first advent (coming).
 - ② The “types”; “figures” or “pictures” of His work – (pictures, types, shadows, ceremonies, sacrifices, temple, feasts, men in Biblical history, etc.)
 - Christ is the SUBSTANCE of the “shadows” or “pictures”. (Colossians 2:16-17)

“Let us go on” (Hebrews 6:1)

- The verb here is φέρω phero {fer'-o} has the meaning “to be carried on” – it is taken from the progress which a ship makes before the wind when it is under sail.
- This verb is in the SUBJUNCTIVE mood — a big word for *possibility* or *potential*.
- This verb is also in the PASSIVE voice. It is some-that happens to us – not something we do to ourselves - **SEE HEBREWS 6:1; JAMES 4:13-16; PROVERBS 19:21; LAMENTATIONS 3:37.**
- **HOWEVER**, for one to be moved on by the wind one must hoist the sails – use all means to be moved on.
- The God-given means for US to go on to the perfection:
 - God’s Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
 - **Profitable** for doctrine (teaching us what is right)
 - **Profitable** for reproof (teaching us what is NOT right)
 - **Profitable** for correction (teaching us how to get right)
 - **Profitable** for instruction in righteousness (teaching us how to stay right)



- **Profitable** for making one complete and thoroughly equipped for every good work.
 - Tools to help to STUDY the Word of God. (2 Timothy 2:15)
 - Pray - collective and individual - consider Colossians 1:9-11.
 - Preaching and teaching of God-given pastor/teachers. (Ephesians 4:11-16; Hebrews 13:17)
 - Christian fellowship.
 - Collective worship.
- We are EXHORTED to use **ALL DILIGENCE** in 2 Peter 1:5. Truth is “bought” in Proverbs 23:23. READ Proverbs 2:1-13. And we are commanded to make GOOD USE of what God gives us – Luke 8:18.
- (Luke 12:48) To those who have been given much much will be required.
- Remember our FIVE D’s of Discipleship:
 - **Desire** to be just like one’s Master. Nothing is more important.
 - **Determined** and sets out to achieve his desire/goal.
 - **Disciplined** in his quest to be just like His Master.
 - **Diligent** in his pursuit. He gives his all in his pursuit.
 - **Doer.** He hears his Master command and he does it. (Matthew 7:24-29; James 1:21-22; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 2:3-6; 5:1-3)

THE PERFECTION (Hebrew 6:1)

- In the Greek manuscripts there is a **DEFINITE** article before the word PERFECTION (τελειότης teleiotes {tel-i-ot'-ace} – a state of more intelligence.
- The idea here is that the JEWS **had already left the “elementary principles of Christ”** of the Old Testament and NOW they must go on to **the** PERFECTION – **the full revelation of God in the person Jesus the Christ.**
- PRACTICALLY, this is a PERFECTION of KNOWLEDGE.
- It is only a *relative* PERFECTION since it is NOT FULLY attainable in this lifetime. See 1 Corinthians 13:9.
- Paul says, “If a man thinks he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know.” (1 Corinthians 8:2)



- Paul, himself, testifies, “Brothers, I do not consider that I have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting what those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:13-14)

★ What is THE PERFECTION? Read Ephesians 4:13-16.

- “Till we all come to the unity of **the** faith”
- “of the knowledge of the Son of God”
- “to the measure of the stature of the **fullness** of Christ”
- WE are commanded to grow in this knowledge. (2 Peter 3:17-18)
 - See Psalm 92:12; Ephesians 4:15; Colossians 1:10; 3:10; 2 Thess 1:3; 1 Peter 2:2.
- We are command to add to our faith knowledge! (2 Peter 1:5-8)
- God continues to grow us DAILY into the image of His Son. (Romans 8:29; **Proverbs 4:18; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 4:16**; Philippians 1:6)

For the Christian TODAY

- We are to “go on” and NOT sit by.
- The TRUE CHRISTIAN life is a LIFE of growth and moving UPWARDS.
- The TRUE CHRISTIAN life is a LIFE of PRESSING FORWARD. (Philippians 3:12-14)
 - Either we are moving forward or we are going backwards.
 - ★ Example: Swimming up
 - ★ If we stop swimming we WILL “drift away” backwards. (Hebrews 2:1)
- Though we “have been already PERFECTED” (Hebrews 10:14) we are always exhorted to GROW, PRESS ON and PERSEVERE.
- “Those who persevere until the end will be saved.” (Matthew 24:13) – but our HOPE and CONFIDENCE is “He that begun a good work will complete it!” (Philippians 1:6; Romans 8:28-30)
 - ➔ God preserves the FAITHFUL. (Psalm 31:23)
 - ➔ God preserves His SAINTS. (Psalm 37:28; Psalm 97:10; Proverbs 2:8)
 - ➔ God preserves those who love Him. (Psalm 145:20 with John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 5:3)
 - ➔ God upholds of a good man. (Psalm 37:23-24)

