

Precept Upon Precept-Hebrews Understanding Hebrews 6:1-12, Lesson 14

- Hebrews 6:1: “Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God.”
 - Remember:
 - Hebrews was written to Hebrew Christians
 - Purpose: Write a word of exhortation to the Hebrews (hold fast the confession of their hope), Don’t let go, but hold fast
 - Condition of the people to whom he was writing: suffering and trials
 - Trials show us the genuineness of our faith
 - Warning: Hebrews 2:1-3: “How will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard.”
 - Foundational truth: Continuance in the faith is evidence of our salvation
 - Hebrews 6:2-3: “of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. And this we will do, if God permits.”
 - Points toward the old covenant
- Hebrews 6:4-6: “For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.”
- Who are the ‘those’?
 - Context of enlightened: Hebrews 10:32: “But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings.”
 - ‘Those’ are those who have been enlightened/saved
 - Ephesians 1:18: “I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.”
 - They have tasted of the heavenly gift; Hebrews 2:9: “But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.”; John 4:10: “Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”
 - They have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit; Hebrews 3:1: “Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession.”; Hebrews 3:14: “For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end.”
 - Parapipto: To fall in one’s way (fall away from the realities of their faith)

- Are these Christians or are they people who have been exposed and seemingly believed but are apostates? Those who are Christians? Those who have lost salvation forever?
 - Conclusion of this premise: If a Christian can fall away, then it is impossible to renew them to repentance.
 - Does Hebrews preach this?
 - Author wants the reader to know that continuance in the faith is evidence of salvation, but it does not contradict eternal security.
 - Philippians 1:6: “For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.”
 - Hebrews 6:9: “But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way.”
 - Hebrews 6:12: “So that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”
 - A matter of continuing to preserve
 - Hebrews 6:19: “This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil.”
 - Hebrews 7:24-25: “but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently. Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.”
 - Hebrews 9:11-12: “...He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.”
 - Hebrews 9:15: “For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.”
 - Hebrews 10:14: “For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.”
 - Hebrews 10:15-17: God will no longer remember our sins.
 - Hebrews 10:39: We do not shrink back to destruction (apoleia)
 - Hebrews 13:5: God will never desert us.
 - Professors but not Possessors?
 - If not, then why the warning?
 - Salvation testimony is based on a continuation in the faith
 - John 6:37: “All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.” (John 6:65,68-71)

