

# Hindrances to Spiritual Growth

Sermon 14 in the Hebrews Series

## Hebrews 5:11-6:3

### I. A Rebuke regarding Spiritual Dullness 5:11-14

A. Dull of Hearing v. 11

B. You Should be Teachers 5:12

We teach in many ways – but primarily by living for Christ – and exhorting one another daily – **10:23-25**.

1 John 2:12-14

C. You Should be Growing 5:13-14

### II. Six Foundational Principles 6:1-3

A. Repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God.

B. Baptisms (washings) and Laying on of hands.

Mark 7:1-9

We also see the “laying of hands” quite prominently in the NT.

--Jesus used laying on of hands as a sign of blessing when the little children came to him (Matt. 19:13).

--The Church in Antioch in separating Paul and Barnabas to missionary work in Acts 13.

--In ordination of officers in I & II Timothy.

C. The Resurrection of the Dead and Eternal Judgment

The resurrection is a key theme in Hebrews

If not for the resurrection of Christ – all of chapters 1 and 2, are meaningless – as is our faith.

The idea of “resurrection” was not foreign to the Jews.  
And the resurrection of Christ is the proof that Jesus is Messiah – and what these Hebrew Christians had staked everything upon.

It is likely they had believed in the reality of the resurrection and the judgment before they came to Christ.

### **Isaiah 26:19**

Your dead shall live;  
*Together with* my dead body<sup>[a]</sup> they shall arise.  
Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust;  
For your dew *is like* the dew of herbs,  
And the earth shall cast out the dead.

### **Daniel 12:2**

And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,  
Some to everlasting life,  
Some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.

Christ argued for the resurrection from the burning bush passage.

“I am the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.  
He is not the God of the dead – but of the living”.

Paul argued the resurrection to divide the Sadducees (theological liberals) from the Pharisees (ultra conservatives).

### **Acts 23:6-8**

But when Paul perceived that one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, “Men *and* brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee; concerning the hope and resurrection of the dead I am being judged!”

<sup>7</sup> And when he had said this, a dissension arose between the Pharisees and the Sadducees; and the assembly was divided. <sup>8</sup> For Sadducees say that there is no resurrection—and no angel or spirit; but the Pharisees confess both.

God as the righteous judge and Eternal Judgment is taught in the OT – and in Hebrews.

**9:27 and 10:26-27**