
Hebrews 6:7-20

Topic: This is one of the most neglected books of the bible. We don't know who the author is, but we do know it was written for the instruction of the temple before 70 A.D. It is to the Jews what the book of Romans is to the Gentiles. Hebrews tells of sacrifices and rituals and exalts the sovereignty of Christ. It tells of Christ's relation to Moses and Abraham and all those people. This is why the Book of Hebrews is so great. The message of Hebrews is this: go on to spiritual maturity. Don't sit back on your laurels; get up and do something for the Lord, spread the word, help someone who doesn't ask but you see they need it.

Vs7: He goes here in implication like a farmer, in the preparation of the ground. We are to prepare with our lives to grow fruit for Him, not us. He is expecting a just produce from our life.

Vs8: this is not about Christians losing their salvation, because that is impossible. It's talking about the life they should live and the fruits they should produce. If you produce thorns, your works will be burned up.

Vs9: we are expecting better things from Christians than thorns and thistles. We expect a lot from mature Christians.

Let's compare eternal salvation and discipleship:

Salvation	Discipleship
Comes through sacrifice of Christ	Comes only by sacrifice of self and surrender to Him
It's free; you can't do one thing to add to what Christ did	Involves paying the price of being separate from the world.
It cannot be lost because it depends on God's faithfulness, and God is completely faithful	It can be lost because it depends on our faithfulness, and this is what the book of Hebrews is talking about.

So many people think "now I'm a Christian and I can live anyway I like" but that is **NOT** true.

Vs10: God knows what you're doing, He sees your works.

Vs11: we desire that every one of you show the same diligence, show very close attention to hope to the end. The word "hope" means "looking forward to the full assurance that that thing is going to happen" in Greek; in English, it means "I'd like for that to happen", it doesn't mean, in English, that it will happen as it does in the Greek language. So we are taking this verse to mean "God WILL bring forth what God has promised His people."

Vs12: Imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. Don't be slothful, don't be lazy, and don't live how you were before becoming a Christian. If you want a role model, pick someone who is living an exemplary life while following Christ. We can recognize people by their fruits, not by their behavior. Once you are God's child, there is nothing that can take you away from Him. Only He can take your life then, if you continue to drag His name through the mud and live a life full of unchecked sin.

If you have a role model who backslides, what happens to his rewards from his works? Whatever works you do for the Lord will come through as gold and silver and precious gems and will never go away, no matter what time in your life you did in. But He will take away works that you do for the world and for your self inflation.

Vs13-14: this means, "Abraham, I'm gonna bless you and I'm gonna bless you again!"

Vs15: Abraham got his heir when he was 99 years old, thus God kept His promise because Abraham was patient and waited on God.

Vs16: we all in our lifetime have seen and have done this: "we swear by God this is it!" just to end an argument. But when God told Abraham what He was going to do, He set an oath on His own name because there is none greater in the universe. But as Christians, we are not allowed to swear an oath.

Vs17: God wants to show Abraham's heirs that God is unchanging in character. When God says something, that's it - it's set. But God did this for Abraham's benefit, because Abraham is a man.

Vs18: when God told Abraham, on my word, you will be blessed and multiply as the sands in the sea.

Vs19-20: Christ is now coming to the New Testament. Jesus, who is the forerunner of all forerunners that the bridge between God and man has now been opened up. Christ is the high priest after the order of Melchisedec. He did this in heaven to signify that the price of sin had been paid and no more sacrifices needed to be made. The wall between God and man has been ripped right open and man has access to God through Jesus Christ.