

# HEBREWS 6:1-20

October 6-7, 2021



1. Look back at Hebrews 5:11-14. What issue is the author addressing in these verses?

Share your thoughts about what can impede our journey to a more mature faith.

2. Read Hebrews 6:1-3. What challenge is given to readers in verse 1?

According to verse 2, what are some elementary principles the Jewish Christians should move forward from?

Foundational truths of the Christian faith should always serve to move us forward to a more mature faith life. Write down some foundational truths of your faith you know and believe and now serve as a springboard to spiritual maturity. Read John 3:16; Romans 3:23-24 and Ephesians 2:8-10.

3. According to Hebrews 6:3, Who will partner with them as they leave behind their Jewish rituals or dead works and walk the road to maturity in Christ?

How does knowing our road to maturity in Christ is not traveled alone encourage you?

4. Read Hebrews 6:4-6. What phrases in verses 4-5 provide insight that these words are spoken to believers in Christ?

Although as believers we are unable to ever lose our salvation, we can lose our opportunity for future blessings if we choose to remain as infants in our faith. What phrase in verse 6a depicts leaving the path of spiritual maturity in the lives of believers?

5. Reread Hebrews 6:4-6. How does falling away from the path of maturity reflect on the sacrifice that Jesus made on the cross?

Falling away is not an accident, but a deliberate choice on the part of believers. List some ways we can guard ourselves from the poor choice of falling away.

6. Describe the two outcomes from the rain upon the land in Hebrews 6:7-8.

What insight does this illustration give you about a productive mature faith versus a faith that remains immature?

When an unproductive field is burned, the land can become more fertile in the process. Share a time you experienced spiritual growth following God's discipline for your poor choices. Read Proverbs 3:11-12 and Hebrews 12:6.

7. Read Hebrews 6:9-12. Despite his admonitions and warnings, how does the author reveal his true feelings for his readers in verse 9?

What actions on the part of his readers give him confidence in their progress towards maturity?

In your own words, explain the author's heartfelt desire for these Jewish believers in verses 11-12.

8. Read Hebrews 6:13-15. As the author continues, he holds up the Jewish patriarch Abraham as a model to imitate. Describe what has transpired between God and Abraham according to these verses. Read Genesis 12:2; 21:1-2 and 22:15-18 for insight.

Jewish patriarch Abraham was 75 years old when he received God's promise of future offspring, 100 years old when his son Isaac was born, and older still when God tested his obedience. As Jewish believers journey from immaturity to maturity, what should they understand and imitate from the example of their patriarch Abraham?

9. Read Hebrews 6:16-18. According to our author, how did God guarantee the promise He had made to Abraham according to verse 17?

Now read Genesis 15:12-14, 17-18. God's presence is represented by the fire pot and torch. Who alone is guaranteeing the oath that is made with Abraham?

Look back at Hebrews 6:18. Why can God's promises be trusted?

How does examining God's steadfast and unchanging promises to Abraham encourage the Jewish believers to move forward in their new life with Christ?

How does it encourage you?

10. Read Hebrews 6:19-20. Describe the role and function of an anchor on a boat.

In what way does an anchor remind you of the role and function of Lord Jesus in your life?

11. The author of Hebrews understands that moving towards a mature faith in the Christian life does not happen by accident. It requires intention and effort. After praying, write down one or two goals you would like to achieve in your faith walk during the next year that will help you move down the road to spiritual maturity.

12. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

## **Maturity or Bust!**

Hebrews 6:1-20

### **A Call to Spiritual Maturity**

vv. 1-3

- The Jewish Christians are called to move forward to spiritual maturity.
- They no longer need instructions in the rituals of the Jewish faith or the basics of the Christian faith.
- Dependence on God's grace and power would enable their spiritual growth.

*Accept the \_\_\_\_\_!*

*Move forward to spiritual maturity as you depend on God's power and grace to go with you.*

### **A Serious Warning**

vv. 4-8

- Apostasy is turning from God's truth and embracing error.
- Falling away is a choice. It is a decisive rejection of God's gifts and blessings.
- A hardened heart keeps believers from turning back to God in repentance.
- Believers who fall away from God's truth and embrace error suffer serious consequences.
- Fruitful lives receive God's blessings while unproductive lives suffer God's judgement.

*Heed the \_\_\_\_\_ of apostasy!*

*Turning away from God's truth leads to His judgment and the painful consequences of an unproductive life.*

### **A Heartfelt Encouragement**

vv. 9-12

- The author is confident that his readers will stay on the path to maturity.
- God sees and knows the work they have done in His name.
- They must avoid spiritual laziness while persevering to maturity.
- Imitating the faith and patience of other believers will help them reach the goal of maturity.

*Be diligent and \_\_\_\_\_!*

*Earnestly pursue maturity, looking to those whose faithful lives will spur you onward.*

### **An Anchor that Holds**

vv. 13-20

- Abraham is their example of faith and patience on their journey to maturity.
- Jesus is the anchor of their soul who has gone before them into heaven.
- As their Anchor, He will hold them safely and securely on the path to maturity.

*Hold \_\_\_\_\_ to the Anchor!*

*Jesus is the anchor of your soul that will keep you steady and secure as you journey to maturity.*

**Greater > Than – Hebrews 6:1-20**

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**JAMES 4:8a Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.**

**JOHN 5:24 “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.”**

**JOHN 10:29 “My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.”**

**PROVERBS 24:30-31 I passed by the field of a sluggard, by the vineyard of a man lacking sense, and behold, it was all overgrown with thorns; the ground was covered with nettles, and its stone wall was broken down.**

**HEBREWS 10:26-27 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.**

**PHILIPPIANS 3:20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.**

**HEBREWS 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.**

**HEBREWS 12:1-2 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**