

LET US GO ON TO MATURITY

Hebrews 6:4-10

INTRODUCTION:

- A. The Hebrews had not grown spiritually
- 1) They should have been teachers vs 12
 - 2) They had forgotten the first principles vs 12
 - 3) They were inexperienced in using the word of God to make good decisions. vs 14
- B. Paul knew they did not need to do these "first principles" again.
- 1) *"not laying again the foundation"*
 - 2) *"let us go in"*
 - 3) *"and this will we do..."*
- I. These People Were Immature, Not Lost
- A. Paul will develop an hypothetical case
- 1) *"For it is impossible for those..."* vs 4
 - 2) αδυνατος = "deficient in strength or power"
 - 3) *"If they shall fall away..."* vs 6
- B. The spiritual history of these hypothetical people
- 1) *"who were once enlightened..."* = φωτιζω = "to illuminate"
The work of God in conjunction with the hearing of the Word of God.
 - 2) *"have tasted of the heavenly gift"* = γενομαι = "to taste"
It means to experience totally as in 2:9. The heavenly gift is Jesus Christ.
 - 3) *"and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost..."* = μετοχος = "a sharer with another"
 - 4) *"and have tasted the good word of God..."* vs 5
γενομαι = "conscious enjoyment of the blessings assured in God's word" They know how good God's word is!

5) "...and the powers of the world to come"

a> δύναμις = "the ability to perform"

b> "and touched the spiritual resources of the eternal world." Phi

II. If They Were Lost, They Could Never Be Saved

A. "If they shall fall away..."

1) παραπιπτω = "to fall beside", "to go astray", "to fall away"

2) "and then have fallen by the wayside"

B. "...to renew them again unto repentance"

1) "renew" = ανακαινίζω = "to come in the place of what was formerly and has not yet been used", "to make new again"

2) "repentance" = μετάνοια = "change of mind"

3) "to make them repent as they did at first" Phi

C. "Seeing they crucify to themselves the son of God afresh,"

1) "crucify afresh" = ανασταυρω = "to again raise up and fix upon a cross"

2) "For they repeat so far as they are concerned the crucifying of the Son of God." Ber

D. "...and put him to an open shame"

1) "open shame" = παραδειγματιζω = "to expose to the public", "to expose to disgrace"

2) "and exposing him to open contempt" TENT

3) If these people return to Judaism and in so doing become lost again they can never be saved. They could never repent as they first did and Jesus would have to be re-crucified and held up once more to the contempt of the world.

III. An Example From The Farm

A. *"For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it"* vs 7

- 1) *"drinketh"* = πίνω = "to drink"
- 2) "It is so, too, with a piece of ground that has drunk in the downpouring rain repeatedly" Nor

B. *"...and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:"*

- 1) "and producing good plants" Bas
- 2) "and yields a useful crop" NEB
- 3) "profitable to these for whom it is tilled..." Con
- 4) "is a ground which has the blessing of God" Phi

C. *"But that which beareth thorns and briars is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned."* vs 8

- 1) *"rejected"* = αδοκιμος = "disapproved, rejected after examination"
- 2) "But if it only yields a mass of thorns and thistles" Wey
- 3) "It has lost its value; a curse hangs over it" Knox
- 4) "And at the end this crop is used for fuel" Lam
- 5) The earth is not destroyed, its fruit is!

IV. Paul Believes That They Will Produce Good Fruit

A. *"But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you,"* vs 9

- 1) *"persuaded"* = πειθω = "to have confidence"
- 2) *"better"* = κρείσσω = "to be different"
- 3) "But, dear friends, we are confident that you will do differently."

B. *"and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak"*

- 1) *"accompany"* = εχω = "to hold one's self fast to", "to belong to"

- 2) "things which are the fruit of salvation, even as we give this warning"

V. They Have Been Fruit Bearers

A. *"For God is not unrighteous to forget your weak and labour of love,..." vs 10*

- 1) "forget" = επιλανθανομαι = "to forget upon"
- 2) "God is not unfair: he will not lose sight of all that you done" Phi

B. *"which ye have shewed toward his name"*

- 1) "shewed" = εκδεικνυμι = "demonstrate", "to point out in anything", "to display one's self"
- 2) "the love you have shown for His cause"

C. *"in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister"*

- 1) "ministered" = διακονουντες = "to serve"
- 2) "as you helped His holy people and still help them"