

# Hebrews 6

## Hebrews 6.1-8

**V1** – The writer is rebuking those Christians for their immaturity

- What should they believe?** The elementary principles of the Christian faith
- Where should they be heading as Christians?** On to maturity
- What are some of the elementary principles that they should have already known?**  
Repentance and faith

**V2** – **What are some other elementary principles?** Baptism, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead, eternal judgment

- Those Christians were still in the “first grade” when it came to their Christian faith

**V3** – **Meaning of this verse?** With God’s help, we can gain spiritual maturity

**V4** – **Characteristics of the people he is describing?** They had been faithful Christians (once enlightened)

- They had received salvation and had received the Holy Spirit

**V5** – **More characteristics?** They had known the word of God and understood the powers of the age to come

- Were those people at one time saved?** Of course

**V6** – **But what happened to them?** They fell away

- What denominational doctrine is refuted by this one verse?** Once Saved Always Saved (or “The Eternal Security of the Believer”)
- Besides just falling away, what else can be said about them?** It is impossible to get them to come back to the church again
- Why?** Because their evil lives crucify once again the Son of God (they agree with those who crucified Jesus Christ)
- This seems to be a reference to the sin against the Holy Spirit (the unpardonable sin)
- People can reach such a state that they no longer want to come back to the church (their hearts are hardened)

**V7** – **What type of ground is discussed first?** Good ground

- Why is it good?** It receives the rain, produces crops, and is blessed because it is good

**V8** – **What other type of ground is discussed?** Bad ground

- Does the same rain fall on it?** Yes
- But what is the result?** It produces only thorns and thistles and is burned off
- What is the message here for the readers of this letter?** That they had better watch their own lives and not fall away and become hardened against the gospel

## Hebrews 6.9-12

**V 9 – What is the attitude of the writer?** He has more confidence in the Jewish Christian  
**-What is his prediction about their salvation?** That they will be saved

**V 10 – Why is God remembering those Christians (by sending them this letter)?** Because of their good work in the past and their love for him (they had been very faithful Christians in the past)  
**-What else had they done?** Ministered to the saints  
**-What were they doing at the present time?** Still ministering to the saints  
**-What does that say about these Christians?** There was still hope for them

**V 11 – What was the writer urging them to do?** Maintain diligence  
**-For how long?** Until the end (very important) – this again destroys the doctrine of Once Saved Always Saved

**V 12 – What was the danger?** Becoming sluggish  
**-What did he urge them to do?** Imitate God's faithful people down through the ages

## **Hebrews 6.13-16**

**V 13 - What Old Testament hero is mentioned next?** Abraham  
**-Why Abraham?** Because he was the hero of those readers  
**-By whom did God swear to bless Abraham?** By Himself  
**Read Genesis 22:16-18** – The promise to Abraham

**V 14** – The writer quotes from *Genesis 22:16ff*

**V 15 – How did Abraham finally get the promise?** By being patient and waiting  
**-What was the final test that God put Abraham to?** Offering up his son Isaac

**V 16 – How do people take an oath?** By swearing by someone greater than themselves  
**-Today, we take an oath in court – we promise to tell the truth to the government**

## **Hebrews 6.17-20**

**V 17 – Did the promise go to all the descendants of Abraham (trick question)?** No, only to his heirs according to the promise  
**-The promise went to the descendants of Isaac, not the descendants of Ishmael (so just being related to Abraham meant nothing)**  
**-What was the unchangeable purpose of God?** To save as many people as possible  
**-What therefore did God do?** Made an oath

**V 18 – What were the two things that validated this oath?** 1. God made it, 2. God cannot lie  
**-What is the result of this oath?** We have fled for refuge from the world into the arms of God  
**-What is before us?** The hope of heaven

**V 19 – How is this hope described?** An anchor of the soul, sure, steadfast, goes within the veil

**-Which veil?** In the temple (separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place)

**V 20 – Who went through the veil? Jesus – Read Matthew 27:51-52**

**-Explain?** Jesus approached God without going through the Old Testament; in fact, the veil was torn in half at the death of Jesus

**-In what sense was Jesus our forerunner?** We will approach the father, just as he did

**-What does all of this say about Jesus, as compared to the high priests under the Old Testament?** Jesus was far superior

**-How long will the priesthood of Melchizedek last?** Forever

Revised 2013-01-26