

While we are waiting to begin the lesson please  
Complete the three questions EXERCISE one on page one of  
your hand outs.

# Hebrews: a Bible Study

Lesson SEVEN

Liberty Towers Church  
Men's Bible Study  
Just Larry

# Better

The message of God, as found in the Bible is two things: REVELATION AND RECONCILIATION

Our Path

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Better source of God's message 1:1-3                    | Prophets        |
| 2. Better vehicle of God's message 1:4-2:18                | Angels          |
| 3. Better leadership toward God's message 3:1-3:7          | Moses           |
| 4. Better internal understanding of God's message 3:8-4:13 | Rest            |
| 5. Better provider of God's message 4:14-5:10              | Priests         |
| <b>6. Better understanding of God's message 5:11-6:12</b>  | <b>Teaching</b> |
| 7. Better promise of God's message 6:12-6:20               | Promise         |
| 8. Better intermediary of God's message 6:20-7:28          | Melchizedek     |
| 9. Better contract of God's message 8:1-9:28               | Covenant        |
| 10. Better provision of God's message 10:1-18              | Sacrifice       |
| 11. Better method of God's message 11:1-40                 | Faith           |
| 12. Better encouragement of God's Message 12:1-13:22       | Admonitions     |

# Our focus for tonight Hebrews 5:11 - 6:12

Focus

- The message is still the same
- The message still fills two needs of man
  - Who is God and what does He expect of me? (REVELATION)
  - A path to God and how to become what he expects of me. (RECONCILIATION)
- It is a message for those on the edge.

# Description of the illness 5:11-14

Idea  
# 1

- I have a lot to say but you don't want to hear them V11
- You should have gone further by now v12
  - You should be at a place you are teaching others
  - But you have not gone on to the good stuff.
  - All milk and not solid food
    - Just enough to hold on,
    - Just enough to be called babe
  - You can't understand the difference between good and evil. V14
    - It is just for the mature
    - Had their senses trained.
- The elementary things are good, but you simply can't stop there.

# Hebrews 5:11-14

Idea  
# 2

On this point I have a great deal to say, which it is hard to make intelligible to you. For you have grown dull of hearing. Though by this time you should be teaching other people, you still need someone to teach you once more the rudimentary principles of the divine revelation. You are in need of milk, not solid food.

You would rather just stay where you are. One foot in the past and one foot in future future.

# Introduction to a sermon of warning

## Idea # 3

- This section is the most important part of the whole letter.
- 5:11 - 6:12 should be seen as one unit
  - Not a place to proof text here and there.
  - It is one cohesive chain of thought
  - It must be considered as a message that is pointed to the specific time, place and audience.
    - The message is for the Saved in the Hebrew church
    - The message is for the Saved that are contemplating leaving
    - The message is for the Saved that have not gone on to understand their position before God
    - The message is the for the Saved that simply do not understand the penalties of rejection and separation.

# Hebrews 6:1 The REASON for the Letter

Key  
Verse

Therefore, let us move beyond the elementary teaching about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God.

# Because you are that way - Chapter 6:1-3

## Idea # 4

- All the teachings you have heard, you need to go further
  - The movement toward maturity stops rejection and rationalization
    - Rejection of the better of Jesus
    - Rejection of the sufficiency of Jesus
    - Rejection of any new revelation
    - Rationalization that the old ways are good enough
      - The foundation of Judaism
      - The foundation or repentance of the Day of Atonement (Acts of Death = Sins)
    - Rationalization of having Jesus as a part of life but not all of my life.
    - Rationalization that keeping the Law was the evidence of faith (Pharisees)
      - Cleansing rites
      - Laying on of hands
      - Resurrection of the dead
      - Eternal judgement



# ARE YOU IN OR ARE YOU OUT - Consequences

- After rejection of teachings
- Rationalization of the old is good enough.

# Identification of is the cancer

**Idea  
# 5**

- Enlightened
- Tasted of the heavenly gift
- Made partakers of the Holy Spirit
- Tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come
- Fallen away.
- Impossible to renew
- No place for repentance
- Crucify Jesus again in their lives
- Bring shame

# Impossibility 6:4-7

Idea  
# 6

For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

# Is God Cruel for condemnation of the apostate?

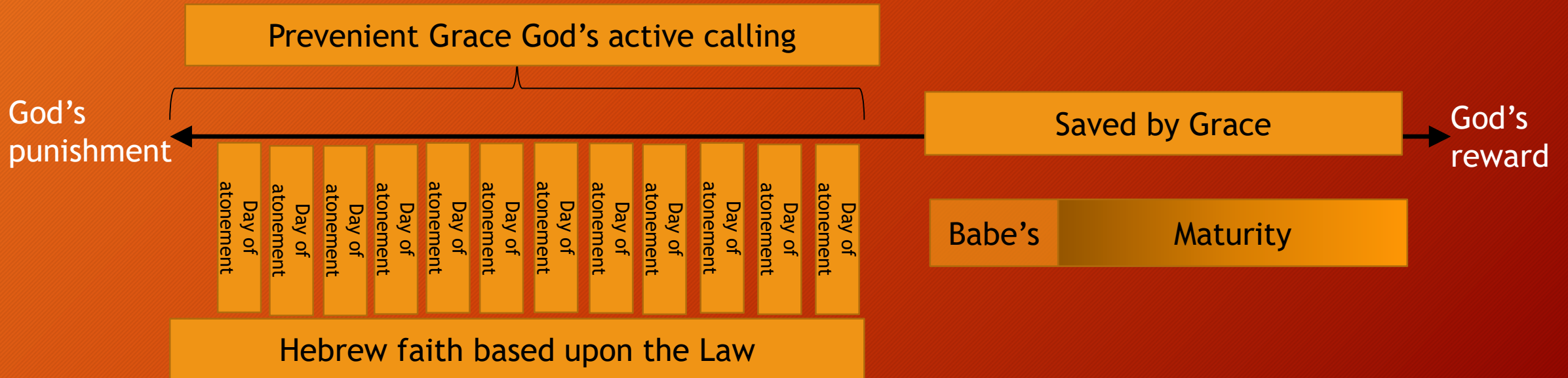
Idea  
# 7

Though this seems hard, yet there is no reason to charge God with cruelty when one suffers the punishment of his own defection. It is a case of sin adding to sin, to a point of despising God, Spirit and Son

JOHN CALVIN

# Identification of the Accused 6:4,5,6

Can God force someone into heaven?



# Sentence of those who have left 6:7,8

Idea  
# 8

- Allegory includes more than one metaphor
  - Not about the ground
  - Both receive rain
  - First example
    - Vegetation useful for those who till
    - Receives a blessing from God
  - Second example
    - Yields thorns and thistles
    - Worthless
    - Close to being cursed
    - Ends up being burned (to kill all the seeds)

Jesus is better

Therefore...

# Application

- AFTER the terrible words of warning of Apostacy
- Beloved
- Two polarized groups
- What we are called to do
  - Be not sluggish
  - Be imitators of those who are patterns
  - Press on to maturity
  - Learn to be teachers
  - Partakers of solid food
  - Don't be a babe
  - Train to discern between good and evil



I'm sure that won't happen to you, friends. I have better things in mind for you—salvation things! God doesn't miss anything. He knows perfectly well all the love you've shown him by helping needy Christians, and that you keep at it. And now I want each of you to extend that same intensity toward a full-bodied hope, and keep at it till the finish. Don't drag your feet. Be like those who stay the course with committed faith and then get everything promised to them.

# V9-12 Go on to better things.

## The BETTER THINGS.

Better things than to be moral dwarfs.

Better things than treating the Son disrespectfully.

Better things than to be withering in the flames.

## THE SAVING THINGS.

Inward change.

Love to God and the brethren.

Prayer.

Assurance of Hope