

Hebrews 6

A Warning & Encouragement to Confidence

This passage needs to be understood in the time and context in which it is written and see the similar teaching of other scriptures in the New Testament. Some were overwhelmed by their struggles. They were fatigued by the fight. Living as a Christian truly required strong **faith** so they would **not fall**. "I've had enough." "I did not buy into this." "This is not what I expected." "Jesus is coming soon and the world will come to an end, why try, just give up. What's the use anyway."

One of the modern Christian myths that ought to be silenced says that when we trust Jesus Christ, we get rid of all our problems. We don't! The faithful have been struggling with this for a long time. Habakkuk 1:1-4; 3:16-19 YET I will...

Pastor's too - Questions asked promoting a seminar for Pastors

- How do I keep going?
- How do I keep everyone together?
- How do I empower the best in those around me?
- How do I battle my insecurity as a leader?
- How do I fix the communication problem on my team?
- How do I make sense of what's happening in our world?
- How do I know when to move forward?
- How do I stay healthy?
- How do I keep others safe?
- How do I stay sharp?
- How will I know if what I'm doing is working...if it's meaningful?

Scriptures that deal with issues and struggles that affect one's faith.

Struggle with sinful desires. Romans 7:14-8:1

Holy Spirit Helps in our Weakness. Roman 8:25-27

Spellbound or tripped up. Galatians 3:1; 4:8-11; 5:7

Maturity gives stability. Ephesians 4:14

False teaching awareness. 1 Timothy 4:1-5; 1 John 4:1

Hard Times in Last Days. 2 Timothy 3:1-5

Wisdom from God for discernment James 1:5-8

Treated wrongly for doing Good. 1 Peter 3:13-17; 4:12-19; 5:6-11

Growth in Christ keeps from Stumbling. 2 Peter 1:3-11; 2:1-10

Firm Foundation Prayer Eph. 3:14-21, *17 - Believed in Jesus John 3:15-17, 5:24; Eternally Secure John 10:29, Rom. 8:35-38; Saved by grace through Faith Eph. 2:8-9; Not condemned Rom. 8:1; Child of God 1 Jn. 3:1; Servant of the Church Col. 1:25; Finish is Ahead 2 Tim. 4:7-8; Unshakeable KOG Heb. 12:28, 13:6; Heavenly Citizenship Phil. 3:20; Home Prepared John 14:1-3; Eternally present with God Rev. 21:1-5

6:1-3 Moving Forward to Maturity

Let us leave basic foundational issues. The groundwork of repentance has been laid. Sanctification is in progress. 2 Corinthians 7:1

Repentance from dead works - Eph. 2:1-10

Baptism - Rom. 6:3-5; Acts 11:15-17

Laying on of Hands, Holy Spirit – Acts 8:14-17; Rom. 8:9; 1 Pet. 4:10

Resurrection of the Dead - 1 Corinthians 14:4, 1 Thes. 4:13-20

Eternal Judgment - Jn 3:15-19; Mt. 25:30, 46; Lk. 16:19-31; Rev. 20:11-15

Mt. 24:4 & 1 Tim. 4:1 Speak of the need for mature discernment so that you will not be deceived and led astray.

6:4-12 Backing Up has Consequences

This conversation continues thru 10:39. They were teetering on the edge but had not fallen off. What is your cliff? A strong warning in 10:26-31. Faith in Christ keeps one from falling.

:4-8 "If experienced.." Not back to repentance but going on in forgiveness. Cf. 1 John 1:8-2:2

:4 "Impossible" can't be renewed; one time born again Jn 3:6, transformed 2 Cor. 5:17, renewed Col. 3:10

Enlightened – To know The word once is the same word as in 9:7 where the high priest goes into the Holy of Holies once a year. It is also the same word used in 9:26 & 27 to refer to Jesus' once only sacrifice. As Christ's sacrifice only took place once, so salvation is a once only event. No popcorn salvation, saved, unsaved, saved, unsaved...

Heavenly gift = grace, "bought at a price" by the blood of Jesus. 1 Cor. 6:20 cf. Heb. 9:14,22

Holy Spirit - sign of true believers Rom. 8:9-11

:5 Good word – tasted it's truth, it brings to salvation 2 Timothy 3:15

Powers of coming age – Matt. 10:7-8; Acts 2:43, 4:33, 5:12; 2 Cor. 10:3-5

Looking at the alternative:

:6 Fallen Away only usage in NT, to fall aside "apostate or apostasy"

[**Apostasy** or **Abide**/Remain in Christ John 15:1-8 – Holding on, haven't quit, not left or dropped out. Here the possibility is presented. They are warned, You don't want to do this, and you haven't (10:39). Stand fast.]

What it would require to be saved a second time. (Impossible)

Re-crucify Christ

Hold Jesus' death in contempt. Eph. 1:22; Phil. 2:11; Col. 2:15

:7-8 Earth analogy. The rain and seed are good. The results show whether the soil is good or bad. The fruit shows. Matthew 7:16-20 What kind of fruit does our life show, pleasing for eating or thorns and thistles. It is not coincidental that those who crucified Christ on the cross made a crown of thorns for Jesus.

:9-12 Confident of better things for you regarding salvation. John 17:12

Confidence before the Lord 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; 1 John 4:17-18

:10 God is merciful and just. Psalm 89:14 *Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your **throne**; love and faithfulness go before you. God's mercy Ephesians 2:4-6; 1 Timothy 1:16*

:11 Call for diligence that then gives full assurance of hope to the end.

:12 Not lazy, but a people like those before us (Cf. ch.11) who lived based on promises 2 Peter 1:4 in faith and perseverance.

6:13-20 A Promised Inheritance

:13-17 *Example of Abraham who received the blessing of promises fulfilled in Christ. Cf. Galatians 3:7 Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham.*

2 Corinthians 1:20 *For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.*

:18 God is truth and does not lie (Jn 14:6) You can depend upon Him keeping his word.

:19 Anchor of Hope for the soul, sunk in deep (4:12), firm and secure.

:20 Jesus our Forerunner and priest. (4:15-16 go to him *who sympathizes with our weakness, yet was victorious over sin, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.*)

They were in the midst of a spiritual storm. Jesus is not uncaring. We need to call on He who calms the waves in the storm. Mark 4:35-41.