

## THE BOOK OF HEBREWS: ARE YOU GROWING SPIRITUALLY?

### HEBREWS 6:1-4

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. To understand the more complex matters of the Bible, we must first understand the elementary principles.
2. The unnamed writer wanted to teach them about Jesus as the High Priest, but their lack of growth made it hard to understand.
3. To grow spiritually, there are some things that we must understand and apply to our lives. (Heb. 6.1-4)

#### I. DOCTRINE OF BAPTISMS

- A. To grow spiritually, I must understand and constantly apply the foundational principle of baptism.
  1. **HEBREWS 6.2:** *“of the doctrine of baptisms”*
  2. Baptisms (baptismos): This is a word that describes ceremonial washings. (Mark 7.4; Heb. 9.10)
- B. How do we apply the doctrine of baptisms?
  1. We cannot turn traditions into doctrine. (Matt. 15.1-3)
  2. Placing more value on traditions than on the teachings of scripture will make our worship vain. (Matt. 15.8,9)

#### II. LAYING ON OF HANDS

- A. To grow spiritually, I must understand and constantly apply the foundational principle of encouragement. (Heb. 6.2)
  1. Used of imparting spiritual gifts. (Acts 8.17,18)
  2. Used of making accusations. (1 Tim. 5.22)
  3. Used of offering encouragement. (Acts 13.1-3)
- B. How do we apply this foundational principle? (Rom. 14.19)

#### III. RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

- A. To grow spiritually, I must understand and constantly apply the foundational principle of the resurrection.
  1. **HEBREWS 6.2:** *“resurrection of the dead”*
  2. **1 CORINTHIANS 15.44:** *“it is raised a spiritual body.”*
- B. How do we apply this foundational principle? (1 John 3.2)

#### IV. THE JUDGMENT

- A. To grow spiritually, I must understand the foundational principles of the judgment. (Heb. 6.2; Matt. 25.32)
- B. How do we apply the judgment? (2 Cor. 5.10)

**CONCLUSION:** Where does it all start? (Heb. 6.11,12)

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*“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”*  
-Mark 16.15

**January 24, 2021**

#### MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM  
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

#### A NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH

Four times in the Bible, reference is made to a new heaven and a new earth (Isa. 65.17; 66.22; 2 Pet. 3.13; Rev. 21.1). In every occurrence, it is describing a new order. Four times God promised that there would be a new order, that is, a new way of existing. In the two passages in Isaiah, it refers historically to the restoration and return of Israel from Babylonian captivity. However, in the New Testament, it refers to our new life in heaven.

In 2 Peter 3.13, we learn that only the righteous inherit heaven. In Revelation 21.1, we read that these righteous are blessed for the privilege of being in the presence of God. John then explains, *“for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.”* You do not read that this earth and these heavens are going to regenerate. There is not going to be a fresh new life where the righteous will live on this new regenerated earth for eternity. This new heaven and new earth is figurative to say that there is a new place where we will live in another dimension outside of these heavens and this earth. This heaven and earth will be no more. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. At the end, God will destroy the heavens and the earth, and we will live in a different plane of existence. The righteous will live for eternity with God in heaven (1 Thess. 4.17). CLP

## IS IT WRONG TO BE ANGRY?

### MARK 11:15

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. A careful study of anger in the Bible reveals to us that being an angry person is dangerous. (Prov. 19.11; 22.24)
2. Yet it is not wrong to be angry as long as we learn to keep our temper under control. (Eph. 4.26; Jonah 4.4)
3. Learning from Jesus will help us understand some things about anger and how to deal with it in our lives.

#### I. THE HUMANITY OF JESUS

- A. There is a physical part of Jesus.
  1. Jesus often displayed His physical needs. (Mark 4.38)
  1. **MARK 11.12-14:** “*Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry.*”
  2. This is an example of Jesus having physical needs.
- B. There is an emotional part of Jesus.
  1. Jesus often displayed His emotions. (John 11.35)
  2. **MARK 11.15-19:** Jesus was angry. (cf. John 2.14,15)
- C. There is a spiritual part of Jesus.
  1. After Jesus cleanses the temple, He returns to Bethany.
  2. **MARK 11.20-26:** The next day, He uses the fig tree to teach about faith and forgiveness.
- D. There is an intellectual part of Jesus.
  1. Jesus makes His way back to Jerusalem for a third time.
  2. **MARK 11.27-33:** Jesus argues with the religious leaders.

#### II. LESSONS FROM JESUS ABOUT ANGER

- A. Lessons from His example.
  1. Anger by itself is not sin. (Heb. 4.15; 2 Cor. 5.21)
  2. We are to be slow to anger. (Mark 11.11)
- B. Lessons from His teachings. (Matt. 5.21-26)
  1. Anger is something that we all have to work on from time to time. “Whoever” is found four times. (Matt. 5.21,22)
  2. Anger should always have a legitimate cause. Was Jesus angry for good reason? (Matt. 5.22; cf. Mark 3.5)
  3. Anger must be controlled or it will lead to severe consequences. (Matt. 5.21,22).

**CONCLUSION:** When angry, remember that we are brethren.

## LIFE IS ABOUT PLEASING GOD

The more you have to lose in this life, the harder it is to give up everything and follow Jesus. Yet Jesus commanded, “*if anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me*” (Luke 9.23). During His ministry, Jesus invited many to follow Him. In Matthew 19, Jesus told the rich young ruler to sell all his possessions and follow Him (Matt. 19.21). Sadly, the rich young ruler “*went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions*” (Matt. 19.22).

This rich young ruler came to Jesus with a question. Many had approached Jesus with questions. Most of the time, they were not compelled by a desire to know the truth. They were driven by envy and desired to “*catch Him in His words*” (Mark 12.13). This rich, young ruler approached Jesus very differently. Matthew records only that the man came to Jesus (Matt. 19.16). However, Mark’s account says that he “*came running*” and when he caught up with Jesus, “*knelled before Him*” (Mark 10.17). This was a man who had a sense of urgency. He had respect for Jesus kneeling down before Him. This was a man who was rich. Despite of all that he had, he was lost, and he knew he was lost. Therefore, he urgently runs to the One who could answer his question. Yet He was not prepared for what Jesus answered. He was unwilling to give up His possessions to follow Jesus.

When was the last time you went to the Bible with a deep respect for the authority of the scriptures and an eagerness to have your questions and concerns answered? We ought to never view our financial standing as an indication of our spiritual condition. One of the greatest dangers being comfortable in what you have is the misconception that you have no need of anything (Rev. 3.17; Luke 12.16-21). Do you measure your life by what you have? Do you want more because having more will give more meaning to your life? If you do, you will have a difficult time following Jesus.

Instead of eagerly trying to accumulate things, let’s be more like the Bereans who were eager to know what God wanted for their lives (Acts 17.11). The Greek word for “readiness” “*prothumia*.” It carries the idea of having passion. Before they heard the word, they were passionate and eager to know what God had to say (cf. 2 Tim. 2.15). Our lives are not to be measured by the accumulation of things, but by how well we know and do what He wants us to do.