

John 3:16-18

16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life.

17 For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him.

18 The one who believes in Him is not judged; the one who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

Two Major Ways of Mishandling The Gospel

1. Reject it



Two Major Ways of Mishandling The Gospel

- 1. Reject it
- 2. Forsake it



6 Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, 2 of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and about the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. 3 And this we will do, if God permits. 4 For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame. 7 For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and produces vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God; 8 but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned.

Hebrews 6:1-8 in sum

1-3:

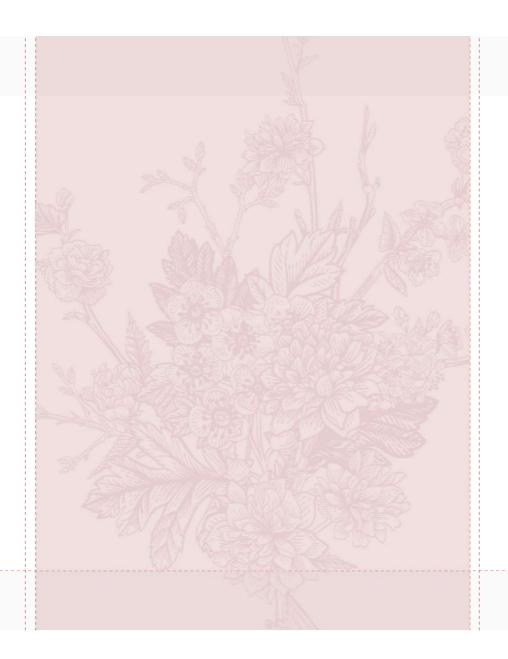
because

4-6:

because

7-8:

Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,

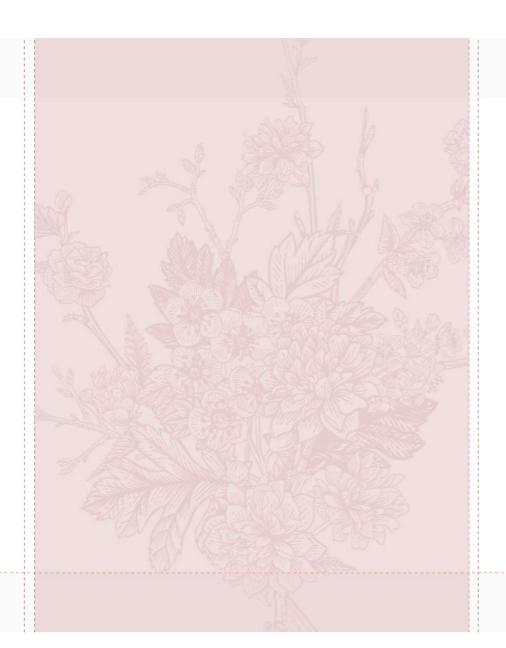


Hebrews 5:14

But solid food is for the mature,
who because of practice have their senses
trained to distinguish between good and evil.

Hebrews 6:1

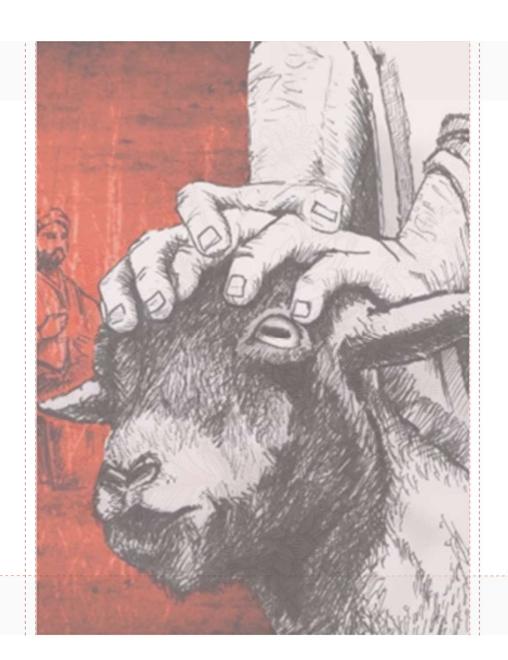
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2 of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and about the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.

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Hebrews 6:1-8 in sum

1-3: Move on from the elementary teaching and train your senses to distinguish good and evil

because

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7-8:

For it is impossible,

in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit,

5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,

6 and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance,

since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.

Hebrews 10:32-36

But remember the former days, when, after being <u>enlightened</u>, you endured a great conflict of sufferings, 33 partly by being made a public spectacle through insults and distress, and partly by becoming companions with those who were so treated. 34 For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, <u>knowing that you have for yourselves</u> a better and lasting <u>possession</u>. 35 Therefore, do not throw away your <u>confidence</u>, which has <u>a great reward</u>. 36 For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.

For it is impossible,

in the case of those who have once been <u>enlightened</u> and have <u>tasted of the</u>
heavenly gift and have been made <u>partakers of the Holy Spirit</u>,

5 and have <u>tasted the good word of God</u> and <u>the powers of the age to</u> <u>come</u>,

6 and then have fallen away, to restore them <u>again</u> to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.

The Heavenly Gift

For the wages of sin is death, but the gracious gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. [Romans 6:23]

The Good Word of God

For I am not ashamed of *the gospel, for it is the power of God for* salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. [Romans 1:16]

The Powers of The Age to Come

'And it shall be in the last days,' God says,'That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and your daughters will prophesy, And your young men will see visions, And your old men will have dreams; [Acts 2:17] 'At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people. [Acts 5:12]

Partakers of The Holy Spirit

Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." [Acts 2:38]

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Hebrews 10:26-29

- 26 For if we go on *sinning willfully* after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,
- 27 but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries.
- 28 Anyone who has ignored the Law of Moses is put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.
- 29 How much more severe punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?

[it is impossible for those who] have *fallen away*, to restore them again to repentance, **since** they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.

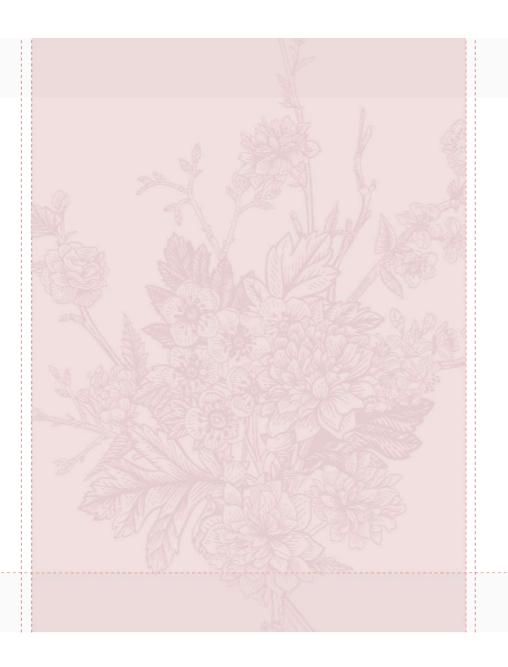


[it is impossible for those who] have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.



9 tn Or "while"; Grk "crucifying...and holding." The Greek participles here ("crucifying...and holding") can be understood as either causal ("since") or temporal ("while").

[it is impossible for those who] have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, while they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.





Hebrews 2:1-3

For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not **drift away from it.**

2 For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every violation and act of disobedience received a just punishment,

3 how will we escape if we **neglect** so great a salvation?

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Hebrews 6:1-8 in sum

1-3: Move on from the Elementary teaching and train your senses to distinguish good and evil

because

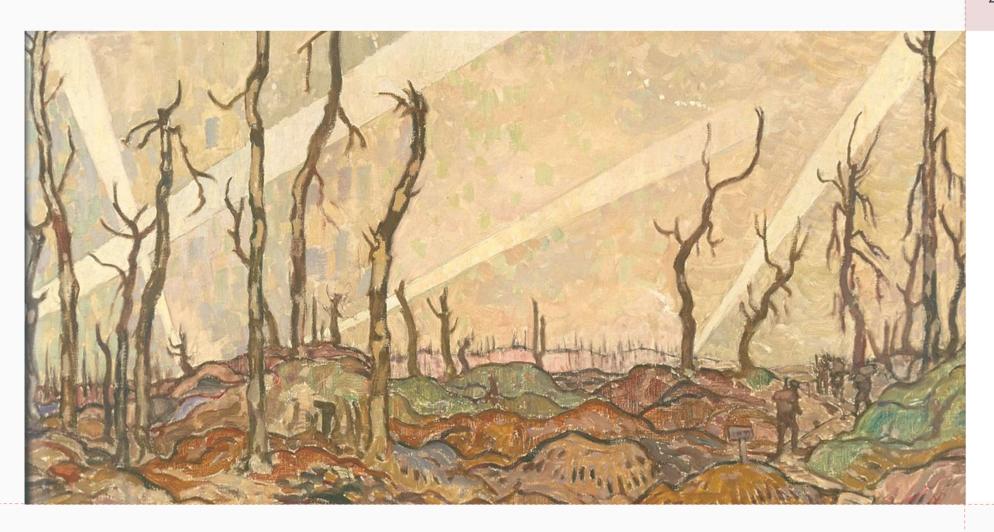
4-6: It is impossible for saved people to return to Christ while they forsake their salvation through willful sin.

because

7-8:

7 For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and produces vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God;

8 but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned.



John 15:1-6

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in Me, and I in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself but must remain in the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in Me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches; the one who remains in Me, and I in him bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in Me, he is thrown away like a branch and dries up; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned."

John 15:1-6

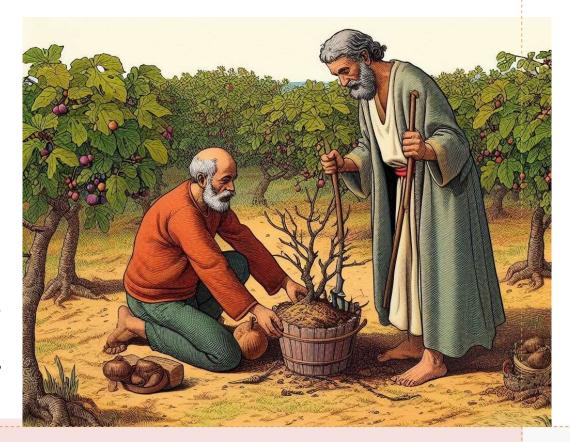
"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 *Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away*; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in Me, and I in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself but must remain in the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in Me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches; the one who remains in Me, and I in him bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. 6 *If anyone does not remain in Me, he is thrown away like a branch and dries up; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.*"

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Luke 13:6-9

"A man had a fig tree which had been planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and did not find any. And he said to the vineyard-keeper, 'Look! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree without finding any. Cut it down! Why does it even use up the ground?' But he answered and said to him, 'Sir, leave it alone for this year too, until I dig around it and put in fertilizer, and if it bears fruit next year, fine; but if not, cut it down."'



Galatians 6:7-10

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a person sows, this he will also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will reap destruction from the flesh, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit. 9 Let's not become discouraged in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not become weary. 10 So then, while we have opportunity, let's do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.

Hebrews 3:12-14

Take care, brothers and sisters, that there will not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that **falls away** from the living God. 13 **But encourage one another every day, as long as it is still called "today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.** 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we keep the beginning of our commitment firm until the end,

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Hebrews 10:24-25

and <u>let's consider how to encourage one another in love and good deeds</u>, 25 not abandoning our own meeting together, as is the habit of some people, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Hebrews 6:1-8 in sum

1-3: Move on from the elementary teaching and train your senses to distinguish good and evil

because

4-6: It is impossible for saved people to return to Christ while they forsake their salvation through willful sin.

because

7-8: If you bear no fruit God will cut you down.

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What then?

- 1. We must move on from the elementary teaching and train our senses to distinguish good and evil. [5:14-6:1]
- 2. We must pay much closer attention to what we have heard. [2:1]
- 3. We must rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us. [12:1]
- 4. We must do good to all people, especially to those who are of the household of the faith [Galatians 6:10]
- 5. We must encourage one another every day (in love and good deeds [10:24]) as long as it is still called "today," [3:12]

