

# Better Things

3-9-25

Hebrews 6:9 (NIV)

Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are convinced of better things in your case—the things that have to do with salvation.

**Not only are the Words of the Bible inspired, but also the order of the words are inspired. In the middle of this complex theology, God deems it necessary in chapter 5:11 to chapter 6:8 to challenge us with human behaviors we will experience in the church. This must be important. The last part of chapter 5, God addresses the dull of hearing, infants living on milk, and the mature living off solid food. This week, we are warned about people who fall away and deny Christ.**

Hebrews 6:1-2 (NIV) NO/OH

Therefore, let us move beyond the elementary teachings 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, instruction about cleansing rites, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

**These are the elementary things we should already be understand: Repentance; Faith; Freedom from Jewish cleansing rites for purification; Laying on of hands for commissioning, praying, etc.; Resurrection; Eternal judgment. However, God warns us that even after being enlightened people will fall away. In doing so, Hebrews presents us with 3 of the most difficult verses in the Bible. To correctly interpret these verses, we must stand on the foundation our eternal security.**

Ephesians 2:8–9 (ESV)

<sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,  
<sup>9</sup>not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

**Also, keep in mind these verses in Hebrews are not intended to address eternal security. They are to give us a heads up about people who fall away denying Christ. Challenging verses:**

Hebrews 6:4-6 (NIV) NO/OH

<sup>4</sup>It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit,

<sup>5</sup>who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age <sup>6</sup>and who have fallen away, to be brought back to repentance. To their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace.

**Impossible** – What is impossible? –

Repentance is impossible! Forgiveness is always possible, but the issue is that these people who fall away will not repent.

**Tasted** – These people tasted the heavenly gratuity, sipped from the sweet Word of God, and rubbed shoulders with the people of God.

**Shared** – These people were associated with the work of the Holy Spirit through the fellowship of the people of faith.

**Fallen Away** – This is the only place in the NT where this word is used. When these people who have been enlighten and have fallen away, it is impossible to lead them back to repent. They could be forgiven, but they will not repent; They will not change their mind. The passage of time will reveal their hypocrisy.

## **1 John also warns us!**

1 John 2:19 (ESV)

They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us

**Back to us! Jesus has Better Things for us! In the middle of complex theology, God warns us about human behavior in the church so that we will not be surprised and let other people's behavior hinder our walk with Jesus.**

Hebrews 6:10 (NIV)

God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

**No matter what others do, God will not forget our love to HIM and others. Now we will continue with theology.**

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Jesus we might become the righteousness of God.