

MOVING ON TO MATURITY

Text: Heb. 6:1-3

- Progressive _____ = the idea that God has revealed truth to the human race _____ over the ages, giving human race only so much at a time in each dispensation to prepare the world for the coming of the Redeemer in the fullness of time.
 - Heb. 1:1-2: God spoke first through the Old Testament prophets, but has now spoken through His Son.
 - Old Testament truths are the _____, but Christ is the _____ (Col. 2:16-17).
- 6:1a: “Therefore” = connection to previous chapter
 - “Perfection” = completion, _____.
 - “Leave” = give up, _____, depart, abandon
 - “The principles of the doctrine of Christ” = the beginning doctrines or _____ teachings about Christ found in the Old Testament.
 - We must abandon spiritual kindergarten if we want to move on to maturity.
- Application: If you want to become complete in Christ, you will have to leave behind whatever religion or belief system is _____ with Christ for your loyalty and allegiance (Philip. 3:7-9).

I. THE _____ TO MATURITY (vs. 1A)

- “Leaving” = “having left”; something assumed to have already taken place.
- “Let us go on” = we should be _____ forward to completion.
- Application: If you say you’re saved, you should be growing; you should have interest in your own spiritual growth and be pursuing it.
- “Go on” = to bear or carry; an action we _____ in.
- Spiritual growth is God’s work; but His work is revealed by the new _____ and obedient direction He gives us (Philip. 2:13).

II. THE PERPETUATION OF _____ (vs. 1B-2)

- Six foundational truths in the Old Testament that were intended to prepare people for Christ but are now _____ by themselves since God has spoken to us by His Son.
 1. _____ from dead works
 - Not enough by itself unless you also know Whom to trust as your Savior (Acts 20:21).
 2. Faith in _____
 - In the New Testament era, we understand that we must have faith in God as He has been revealed in Person of Christ.
 3. Doctrine of baptisms

- Plural = “_____” (Heb. 9:10).
- Ceremonial washings were just pictures of the once and for all washing from _____ we need in Christ.

4. Laying on of hands

- Laying hands on animal _____ identified the offering with the offeror, but now we must be personally identified with Christ and a part of Christ’s body.

5. The resurrection of the _____

- A critically important doctrine but vague and incomplete without Christ.

6. Eternal judgment

- Understood in the Old Testament but much more so in the New.

- The author was talking to people who knew the Old Testament Scriptures, had been sitting in good churches hearing lots of good teaching/preaching, but weren’t moving forward, and some were going back.
- Question: Have you come all the way to _____ in Christ?
 - Do you have a testimony of transformation and growth? (Titus 3:5-6)

III. THE _____ FOR MATURITY (vs. 3)

- “This” = the action of moving ahead to maturity in Christ.
- “If God permit” doesn’t question whether God is willing for us to grow but highlights our _____ to and dependence on the Holy Spirit for life-changing results.
- Three applications:
 - Our salvation and growth in Christ is not a self-work but _____ work in us.
 - If a servant of God wants to accomplish worthwhile results through his teaching/preaching, he will need the _____ and help of God (2 Cor. 2:16, 3:5-6).
 - There are some God will not _____ to go on to perfection.
 - 10:29, those who have “done despite unto the Spirit of grace.”
 - If you say “no” to God enough times, it could be that He will finally say “no” to you and leave you _____, or at least that you won’t be able to hear His voice through thickened walls of hardened heart.
- The right motto and manner for Christian _____ = “this will we do, if God permit.” It’s the right way to live all of life!