



Pastor-Teacher | Chris Regas | 6.15.2025

The Anchor of Our Final Salvation

Lesson Eighteen • Hebrews 6:13-20

More Rhetorical Whiplash? NO! *It's Time to HOLD FAST to God's Anchor of Our Final Salvation!*

Third Warning Passage • Hebrews 5:11–6:20				
5:11-14	6:1-3	6:4-8	6:9-12	6:13-20
SHAME	EXHORTATION	FEAR	CONFIDENCE	SECURITY
IRONY!	IRONY!	IRONY!	IRONY!	HOLD FAST!
<i>You're NOT ready for Melchizedek!</i> The Persuasive Argument Is Rhetorical: Logical (Logos) + Emotional (Pathos) + Ethical (Ethos) <i>NOW You're ready for Melchizedek!</i>				
ASSESSES THEM <i>Spiritual Apathy!</i> You've got early onset of apostasy – <i>spiritual apathy as sluggards in hearing!</i>	ADMONISHES THEM <i>Spiritual Advance!</i> You can't remain spiritual sluggards (ABCs)! Be led forward to spiritual maturity!	ALERTS THEM <i>Spiritual Apostasy!</i> Forewarned: Keep growing in maturity (blessed) or fall away in apostasy (cursed)!	ASSURES THEM <i>Spiritual Application!</i> Forewarned: Diligently imitate those who persevere and don't be apostate sluggards!	ANCHORS THEM <i>Spiritual Appetite!</i> Because God and His promise, oath, purpose are unchanging, we are secure!
REGRESS Leads to Apostasy • PROGRESS Leads to Maturity • PAST TIME to DIGRESS as a Spiritual Sluggard!				

Connection of 6:13-20 to the Warning of Hebrews 5:11–6:20

The Book of Hebrews is like the interwoven robe of the great high priest that had no seams!

5:11 You're Sluggards: <i>Hard of hearing in your apathy!</i>	Be Diligent & Not Full-Blown Sluggards: <i>Hard hearted in apostasy!</i> 6:12
5:11 You're NOT Ready for Melchizedek!	NOW You're Ready for Melchizedek! 6:13-20

Connection Between Our Perseverance and God's Preservation

- The pastor-teacher has boldly said: "Personally and pastorally, I have **ASSURANCE** of your final salvation despite your present apathy!" (6:9-12)
- But the *certain assurance* of final salvation can't be *transferred* to others and so the pastor-teacher seeks to **ANCHOR** their assurance in God's security of their salvation. (6:13-20)

God preserves us **FOR** final salvation so we will persevere **TO** final salvation!

Assurance of our final salvation **grows** with our **fruitful perseverance** as His saints. (6:9-12)

Security of our final salvation is **grounded** in God's **faithful preservation** of His saints. (6:13-20)

God Anchors Our Hope of Future Salvation in Himself!

1. Final Salvation Is Anchored in God's **UNBREAKABLE** Promise.

"For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, 'I will surely bless you and I will surely multiply you.' And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise." (6:13-15)

Abraham: The Pattern of Persevering Faith in God's Unbreakable Promise

- Abraham **RECEIVED** the promise from God.

"For when God made the promise to Abraham, (v. 13a; Genesis 12:1-3; Hebrews 11:8)

- Abraham **PERSEVERED** by faith in God and His promise.

"saying, 'I will surely bless you and I will surely multiply you.' And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise." (vv. 14-15a; Genesis 15:1-18; 17:1-8; Hebrews 11:11-12)

- Abraham **OBTAINED** the promise as a picture of the final fulfillment in the future.

"And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise." (6:13-15; Genesis 21-22; Hebrews 11:17-19)

Imitate Abraham the Father of All Those Who Have PERSEVERING Faith Until Our Final Salvation!

God's unbreakable promise is motivating but also calls for the response of persevering faith!

Hebrews 11:9-13 > John 8:56 > 2 Corinthians 1:20

2. Final Salvation Is Anchored in God's UNCHANGABLE Oath.

*"since He could **swear** by no one greater, He **swore** by Himself...For men **swear** by one greater than themselves, and with them an **oath** given as **confirmation** is an end of every dispute. In the same way God, desiring even more to **SHOW** to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath, that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie" (6:13, 16-18a; Genesis 22:10-19)*

The Question Is: *"Can God be trusted to keep His promise to His people even in the hardest of trials?"*

- **SWEARING** by one "greater" provides greater trust in the unbreakable promise.

"since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself...For men swear by one greater than themselves,

- **SETTLES** the question of consequences for breaking the promise.

"with [humans] an oath given as confirmation is an end of every dispute"

- **SECURITY** in God's unbreakable promise and God's unchanging oath is sealed by God's character!

*In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath, that by **two unchangeable things** in **which it is impossible for God to lie**"*

God's unbreakable promise and unchangeable oath is guaranteed because
He never **LIES** or **DIES**! *Numbers 23:18-20*

3. Final Salvation Is Anchored in God's UNFAILING Purpose!

*"we who have taken refuge **would have strong encouragement** to **take hold** of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an **anchor of the soul**, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which **enters within the veil**, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a **high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek**." (6:18-20)*

Three Word Pictures Securely Tie Together Our Hope of Final Salvation

- The nautical **ANCHOR** *makes our hope* sure and steadfast in the storms of the present.
- The priestly **ENTRANCE** *means our hope* is living in the very presence of God in the future.
- The trailblazing **FORERUNNER** *mediates our hope* as the eternal High Priest like Melchizedek now and forever.

The Immutable Basis for a Sinner's Hope: *Our Hope Is Built on Nothing Less!*

"God is for us! In His Son, the perfect High Priest and perfect Sacrifice, He has provided for all that we will ever need to get through these difficulties and inherit the final salvation God has destined us for. True, we need to respond with faith and endurance throughout this pilgrimage (6:12). But our faith is directed to one who has promised on oath to provide for our every need, and we endure knowing that blessing at the end has already been secured for us." – Doug Moo

Hold Fast to the Hope of God's Upside-Down Anchor in Heaven!

The immutable basis of our hope is God's unbreakable promise, His unchanging oath, and His unfailing purpose in Jesus!

- Run to Jesus as our refuge of safety when you are struggling, tempted, tested, and especially when you have sinned!
- Hold fast to Him as our anchor with a persevering faith, a laboring love, and a steadfast hope.
- Move forward with Him as our Forerunner, Jesus the God-Man, who has already blazed the trail into God's presence!

The Anchor Holds

I have journeyed
Through the long, dark night
Out on the open sea

By faith alone
Sight unknown
And yet His eyes were watching me

Chorus

The anchor holds
Though the ship is battered
The anchor holds
Though the sails are torn

I have fallen on my knees
As I faced the raging seas
The anchor holds
In spite of the storm

I've had visions
I've had dreams
I've even held them in my hand

But I never knew
They would slip right through
Like they were only grains of sand

Chorus

I have fallen on my knees
As I faced the raging seas
The anchor holds
In spite of the storm

I have been young
But I am older now
And there has been beauty
That these eyes have seen

But it was in the night
Through the storms of my life
Oh, that's where God proved
His love to me

Chorus

I have fallen on my knees
As I faced the raging seas
The anchor holds
In spite of the storm

I have fallen down on my knees
As I faced the raging seas
And the anchor holds
the anchor holds
the anchor holds
In spite of the storm

<https://lawrencechewning.com/the-anchor-holds>

In Early Christian iconography in the Roman catacombs (c. late 100-400 AD), one often finds on the tombs of the departed Christians an anchor as a symbol of their firm hope in eternal life with their Savior.



This is the printers mark of Thomas Vautrollier, a Huguenot refugee to England during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. The Latin phrase *anchora spei* means “**anchor of hope.**” Reaching down from heaven is a hand firmly gripping the anchor.



My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

This hymn was written by Edward Mote, a pastor at Rehoboth Baptist Church in Horsham, West Sussex. Mote wrote around 100 hymns, this one, which he wrote in 1834, being the best known of his.

The hymn "**My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**" was published anonymously in several hymn collections before first being attributed to Edward Mote in a collection of approximately 100 of his hymns published in 1837 under the title *Hymns of Praise, A New Selection of Gospel Hymns, Combining All the Excellencies of our Spiritual Poets, with Many Originals*. Mote's original title was "**The Immutable Basis for a Sinner's Hope**" in this collection.

The refrain of "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" refers to the *Parable of the Wise and the Foolish Builders* and builds around the metaphor of Christ as a rock with a firm basis in Scripture.

On Christ the Solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand

first stanza declares God's grace; **stanzas 2 and 3** concern the application of that grace in times of trouble. In the **final stanza**, Mote brings his hymn full circle with the ultimate realization of God's grace.

The lyrics vary somewhat among various hymnals, but customarily the phraseology adheres to Mote's original. The hymn became very popular and has been subject of many interpretations and covers.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Hope_Is_Built_on_Nothing_Less

"The Immutable Basis for a Sinner's Hope"

1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus Christ, my righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.

3 His oath, His covenant, His blood,
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found;
In Him, my righteousness, alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.



Christian Roman epitaph of Atimetus from the catacombs of St. Sebastian on the Via Appia, Rome. Inscription flanked by Christian symbols of an anchor and a fish.

<https://www.jesuswalk.com/christian-symbols/anchor.htm>