The Better Choice

Jesus Christ

Encouragement From The Book of Hebrews

Jesus Christ: The Better Choice

- A better messenger
- Better than the angels
- Better than Adam
- Better than Moses
- A better rest
- A better high priest
- A better priesthood
- A better covenant
- A better tabernacle
- A better sacrifice
- A better way of living
- A better faith
- A better kingdom



THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

HEBREWS – Warnings/Challenges

- ❑ DO NOT neglect such a great salvation (2:1-4)
- ❑ DO NOT begin to fall away from the faith (3:7-19)
- ❑ DO march on toward the consummation of faith (4:1-13)
- ❑ DO be mature believers who persevere (5:11-6:20)
- ❑ DO approach God confidently in Christ (10:19-22)
- ❑ DO hold tight to the faith (10:23-31)
- ❑ DO emulate the heroes of faith and run the race (11:1-12:2)
- ❑ DO minister to those who suffer (13:1-3)
- ❑ DO live by a Christian worldview which reckons real security as having the Lord's presence in life (13:5-6)

Hebrews 5:9-6:4

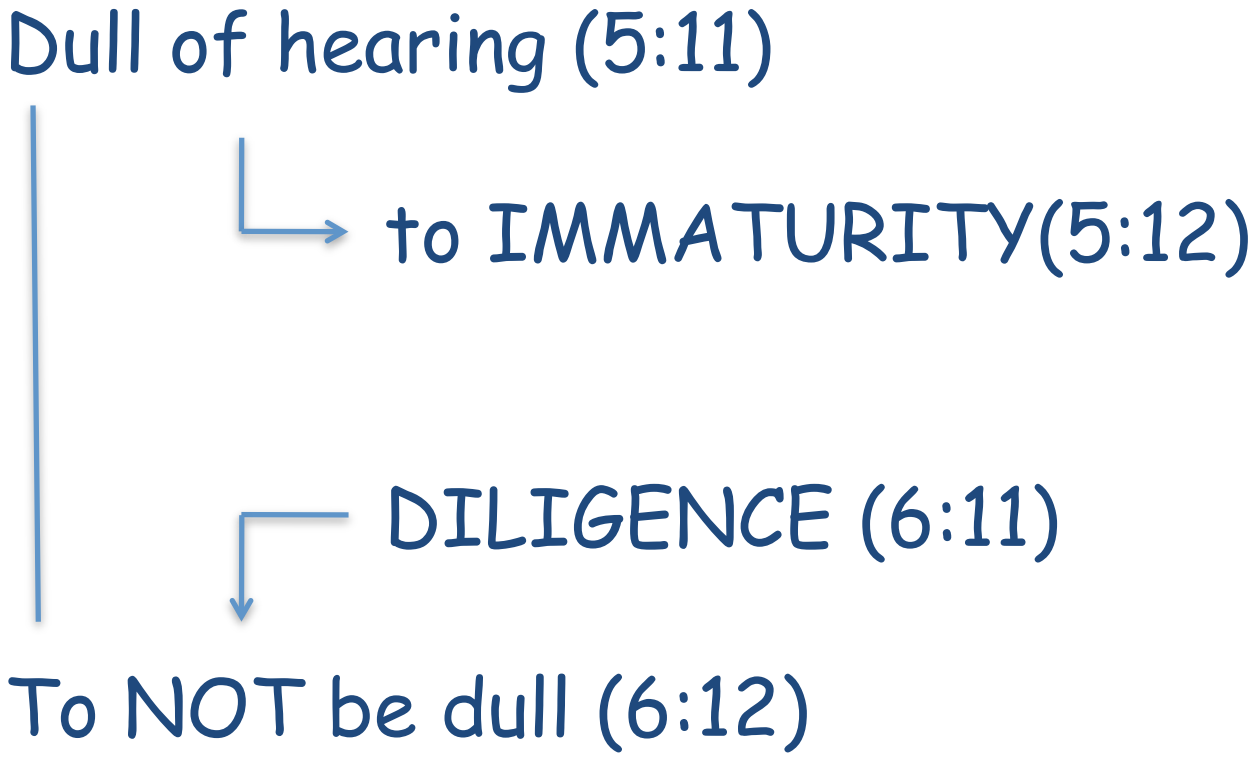
"and having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation, 10 being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek. 11 Concerning him we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. 12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil."

Hebrews 5:9-6:3

"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 the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. [3] And this we shall do, if God permits."

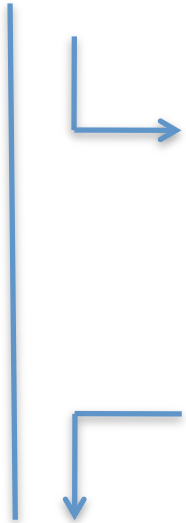
THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

HEBREWS: CHALLENGE to be DILIGENT



HEBREWS: CHALLENGE to be DILIGENT

IMMATURITY (5:12)



Inexperienced in the Word (5:13)

Discerning use of the Word (5:14)

MATURITY (5:14)

HEBREWS – Spiritual MATURITY



"The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good."

Luke 6:45a

HEBREWS – Discernment

- DISCERN the proper response (1Thess 5:14)
- DISCERN when it is time to wait (Acts 1:4; Num 9:22-23)
- DISCERN when it is time to act (James 4:17)
- DISCERN the higher moral principle (Exod 1:17-20; Acts 5:29)
- DISCERN the situation (1 Kings 9:13-15)
- DISCERN the better choice (Phil 1:10)
- DISCERN between right and wrong (Heb 5:14; 1Thess 5:21)
- DISCERN the signs of the time (Luke 12:56)
- DISCERN the spirit of the situation (1John 4:1)

Recontextualization – A spiritual exercise

- Demonstrate the righteousness of God's truth (Deut 4:7-8)
- Apply the timeless principles of Scripture to the present (Heb 5:14)
- Classify current issues within biblical categories (Heb 3:7-4:2 w. Num 13-14)

Practicing Discernment

Should I Always Keep a Confidence?

Dan, fifteen years old, enjoys talking to his friend's mother, Nicole. Many times he has confided his problems to her. Now he comes to the house to ask if he can talk to her confidentially. After she agrees, he tells her that he has saved enough money to run away. She tries to persuade him not to, but fails. As soon as Dan leaves her house, Nicole calls her parents to tell them of their son's plans.

From Arthur Dobrin "Ethics for everyone"

Is Life Always Worth Living?

Moe and Anne have been married for more than sixty years. Anne is beginning to suffer from Alzheimer's disease and has lost the ability to make sound judgments. Moe decides everything for both of them. Anne has begun to suffer heart problems, and the doctor tells Moe that Anne needs surgery to prevent what in likelihood will be a serious heart attack within the year. "But," the surgeon asks, "at your age, will you be able to care for her? She'll have a healthy body but her mind is going rapidly. She may well live for another five to ten years if she has the operation." Moe has to decide for his wife whether to go ahead with the procedure.

From Arthur Dobrin "Ethics for everyone"

Hebrews 6:4-8

"For 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, it is impossible to renew 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 upon it and brings forth 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 – The Danger of APOSTASY

- Let us **not neglect** such a great salvation (2:1-4)
- Those among the brethren who **apostatize** into **unbelief** (3:12)
- Those enlightened, having tasted the heavenly gift, being partakers of the Holy Spirit, tasting the good word of God and the powers of the coming age, and **apostatizing** (6:4-6a)
- We who **sin willfully** after receiving the knowledge of the truth (10:26)
- The one who tramples the son of God, regards the blood of the covenant **with which he is sanctified** as profane (10:29)

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