

Series "Jesus Is Better"
"Spiritual Immaturity"
Hebrews 5:11-14
Study-11

"5 Problem Passages In Hebrews"

**3rd Problem Passage – Dullness Toward The Word – 5:11-6:20
(Sluggishness)**

Hebrews 5:11-14 – Spiritual Immaturity
Hebrews 6:1-12 – Call To Spiritual Maturity
Hebrews 6:13-20 – Secure Hope In God

Hebrews 5:11

The Thought Of Our Passage: "Failure To Reach Maturity Is The Result Of One's Choice, Which Robs Others Of Instruction From A Mature Life."

1. Verses 11-13 – Marks Of Immaturity

2. Verse 14 – Marks Of Maturity

1. Verses 11-13 – Marks Of Immaturity:

Hebrews 5:11

"Concerning him we have much to say," – referring to the previous passage, Hebrews 5:10. Hebrews 4:14-5:10 – Jesus, Better Than Aaron.

"ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK." – The order of Melchizedek predated the order of Aaron. Jesus Is Both King And Priest.

An Eternal Royal Priest: "YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER"

Hebrews 7 – The writer will continue with the subject of MELCHIZEDEK.

3 Marks Of Immaturity:

1. Verse 11 – Immaturity – Limited Capacity: "we have much to say," – "many things to say" about the priestly ministry of Christ.

"and it is hard to explain," – literally "hard to be interpreted."

"you have become" – "you have become and are now."

“dull of hearing.” – The adjective “dull” only used here in the NT; comes from two words: “not” and “to push”. A dull person, therefore, has no push or drive; he is slow or sluggish; laziness, slothful; who refuse to tackle hard work; “dull of hearing” – “laziness of the ears”; Not mental but spiritual.

Hebrews 6:12

(NIV) Jeremiah 6:10 – “The word of the LORD is offensive to them; they find no pleasure in it.”

2. Verse 12 – Immaturity – Lack Of Growth: (The Results Of Dullness), Hebrews 5:12.

“For though by this time” – Hebrews 10:32

“ought” – implies a moral obligation.

We cannot escape personal responsibility and accountability for the truth that we have!

Matthew 28:19-20

1st – The Immature Christian Rob’s Themselves Of Spiritual Benefits That Would Bring Maturity.

2nd – The Immature Rob Others Because They Should Have Been Teachers, Sharing The Blessings In And Out Of The Fellowship.

“you have need again for someone to teach you” – Not only had they failed to move forward in their understanding, they had lost their grasp of the elementary truths of God’s word.

2 Peter 3:18

Ephesians 4:15

1 Corinthians 14:20

Never Enrolled In Christ’s School – Matthew 11:28-29

“elementary principles” – The “first principles”; ABC’s; he gives the elementary teachings, Hebrews 6:1-2.

“of the oracles of God,” – In Acts 7:38; Romans 3:1-2.

"milk" – to "the entry level teachings of the Christian faith", Hebrews 6:1-2.

"solid food" – refers to "the advanced doctrinal truth and its application to the Christian of life."

1 Peter 2:2

No One Likes To Be Called A Baby: 1 Corinthians 3:1-3.

The discussion about the priesthood of Melchizedek is solid food.

3. Verse 13 – Immaturity – Lack Of Skill: (The Results Of Dullness), Hebrews 5:13

The Milk Christian: "For everyone who partakes only of milk" – Those who live on milk are called infants or babies.

"is not accustomed" – The adjective "unskillful" literally means "untried, no test, inexperienced" (lack of practice).

"to the word (logos) of righteousness;" – (Doctrinal/Practical) God's revelation about living righteousness in life, upright living in daily behavior.

1 Corinthians 13:11

2. Verse 14 – Marks Of Maturity:

Hebrews 5:14

3 Mark's Of Maturity:

1. Mature – Have An Unrestricted Diet: "But solid food is for the mature,"

"mature" – "that are full age."

Ephesians 4:13

1 Corinthians 14:20

2. Mature – Are Responsible And Disciplined: "who because of practice" – speaks of "habit, systematic training by multiple repetitions."

“have their senses trained” – word from which we get “gymnasium”; Shaped and conditioned.

1 Timothy 4:7

Hebrews 12:11

The training they needed involved a steady application of spiritual discipline.

Adverse Training: 2 Peter 2:14

3. Mature – Have The Ability To Discern: “to discern good and evil.”

2 Peter 3:18

Mature – Have The Ability To Discern: Christians can discern between good and evil and true and false doctrine.

Application:

1. We Should Begin With Truth We Already Know, But Have Not Been Obeying. Does God Want You To Stop Some Activity, Change An Attitude, Forgive Someone, Or Reach Out And Help Another? No Further Light Is Given Unless We Utilize The Light We Have.
2. We Need To Make Listening And Obeying A Priority If We Are Going To Mature As A Christian. God Is More Concerned About How We Act Than How We Feel.
3. We Should Constantly Think Bible. How Does God’s Word Apply To My Decisions In Life?