

LESSON 3B – WARNINGS

Various Texts On Warnings

1. 2:1 – 4 Pay careful attention.... so that we do not drift away
2. 3:1 – 4:16 Do not harden....no unbelieving heart among you... enter the Sabbath rest.
3. **5:11 – 6:6** **Leave elementary teaching...Go on to maturity...**
4. 10:19 – 39 Let us draw near...hold...consider...remember...don't throw away confidence...
5. 12:1 – 29 Let us run...don't grow weary or lose heart when disciplined...make level paths...etc.

Read The Text

Hebrews 5:11-6:6

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 an infant. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil. 6 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 will do, if God permits. 4 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. NASB

Did He Just Say That?

- WOW ...
 - We need to avoid the giant canyon many have fallen into..."can you lose your salvation?"
 - We need to climb the steep wall of what he is really saying.

LESSON #3a

Hebrews 6:4-6 Avoiding the Canyon!



LESSON #3b

Hebrews 5:11-6:6 Climbing the Wall



What should we conclude on 6:4-6?

- It is not teaching we can lose our salvation...period.

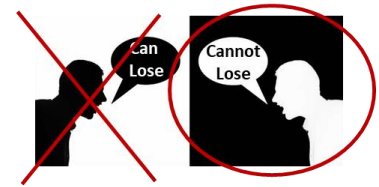
- Then what IS he saying?

- One of two conclusions...

1. The warning is just hypothetical.

or

2. The author believes they can have many things in common with believers and yet still be an unbeliever.



Just Kidding....



Option #1...just kidding?

- If the warning is just hypothetical, then it doesn't seem to align with the context of the whole book nor with the various warnings about unbelief.
- Moreover, would it really be a warning with bite if it couldn't be possible?

Let's consider option #2...

Would view #2 align with the rest of the Scriptures?

Again, let black and white clear scriptures instruct our interpretation of grey scripture.

Bible Text for Almost Believers

Matt 7: 22-23	Cast out demons...did many miracles in Jesus name...yet workers of lawlessness
Matt 13:3-23	Sower of seeds...receives with joy but persecution causes him to turn away...cares of world choke out the word...no fruit...good ground (believing heart) bears much fruit.
2 Cor 7:10	Godly grief that produces repentance which leads to salvation. ...and hence there is an ungodly grief which does not lead to salvation...closer to remorse
2 Peter 2:20-22	False teachers had knowledge of truth and repentance but their nature was not changed...the dog returned to their vomit.
Matt 27:3	Judas repented (actual rendering is "seized with remorse") but did not have saving faith

John 3:2	Knowledge and approval but no saving faith
Acts 26:27-28	Story of Agrippa...almost convinced him to become a believer...almost
James 2:19	Demons know and shudder
I Tim 1:19	Rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith
Phil 1:15-18	Preach with False motives

Can We Know if Someone Else is a False Beliver?

Tares among Wheat Matt 13:24-30

24 Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. 25 But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went away. 26 But when the wheat sprouted and bore grain, then the tares became evident also. 27 The slaves of the landowner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' 28 And he said to them, 'An enemy has done this!' The slaves *said to him, 'Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?' 29 But he *said, '**No; for while you are gathering up the tares, you may uproot the wheat with them.**' 30 Allow both to grow together until the harvest; and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, 'First gather up the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them up; but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

The Tares Explained Matt 13:36-43

36 Then He left the crowds and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field." 37 And He said, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, 38 and the field is the world; and as for the **good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil one;** 39 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. 40 So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, 42 and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

ANSWER= NO...not even the Angels can tell for sure...only God knows...and the person themselves!



WHEAT: before it is fully ripe.



TARES: Lolium Temulentum

HEBREWS IS WRITTEN THAT YOU MIGHT KNOW YOU ARE SAVED AND BE ENCOURAGED TO ENDURE...SO WHY NOT TAKE THE JOURNEY?...TODAY IS THE DAY OF SALVATION!

Conclusion on 6:4-6

We must conclude:

- The author believes you cannot lose your salvation.
- However, we can appear to have many things in common with believers and still be an unbeliever!

“OUCH...this is a bit weighty for my soul”



- However, if you feel fear and trembling rising in your heart, then hold on because it gets worse than this as we haven't finished with 5:11-14

Hebrews 5:11-14...a deeper look

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 an infant**. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

1 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 will do, if God permits.

- What is **Dull of Hearing**?
 - Needs someone to teach you when you ought to be able to teach it due to time which has lapsed.
 - Need Milk as a Spiritual infant
 - Cannot handle solid food.
- What is meant by **elementary principles of the oracles of God**?
 - pair one: "repentance from dead works and of faith toward God" (v. 1d);
 - pair two: "instruction about washings, and laying on of hands";
 - pair three: "the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment" (v. 2).
 - These all have been eloquently argued to be statements true for both Jews and Christians at a foundational level.

- What is wrong with being an infant and drinking milk?
 - Nothing if they are new believers and the milk is causing growth.
 - Yet they have been “professing believers” for some time and are still stuck on basic spiritual truth.
 - Author expects them to be able to **teach spiritual truths by now**...and expects all mature believers to do so!
 - They aren’t growing. They are a diseased baby.

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 an infant. 14 But **solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.**

6 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 will do, **if God permits.**

- What is the **solid food** he is referring to?
 - Concerning him we have much to say...concerning who?
 - Need to go back to last section of text.
 - Concerning Jesus as our high priest...in many aspects.
- What makes the **mature able to eat solid food**?
 - They are accustomed to the word of righteousness.
 - They practice discerning good and evil.
 - So our “seeing and doing” can affect our spiritual hunger...and understanding! Wow.
WE MUST STUDY & DO THE WORD!
 - NOTE WHAT HE DIDN’T SAY – i.e. mature are those who have trained themselves not to sin.
- What does he mean **if God permits**?
 - God controls your level of understanding based on His eternal purposes.

Test Yourself

What if you have been a professing believer for some time and

- You are stuck in the basic truths about God and have no desire or ability to press on into deeper truths about Christ?
- You really seem to be stagnant in worship, spiritual understandings, or the fruit coming from your hearts?
- You are more excited about the upcoming Star Wars movie than you are about the book of Hebrews?

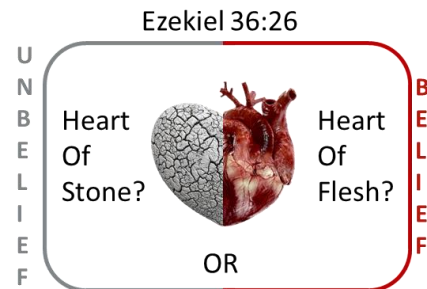
- You think you understand the Gospel but can't articulate it to another person?
- You know that believers disciple others but you never have?

...what does it mean?

What does it mean?

- You either are an unbeliever

or ...



- You haven't been "doing" the word...practicing the discernment of good and evil.
- You have a spiritual illness called dull of hearing.
- You have been feeding the flesh and starving your spirit.

What do we mean feeding the flesh?

Galatians 5:19-21 (NASB)

19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Greatest Commandment....Matthew 22:36-40 (NASB)

36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37 And He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the great and foremost commandment. 39 The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

Matthew 28:18-20 (NASB)

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father

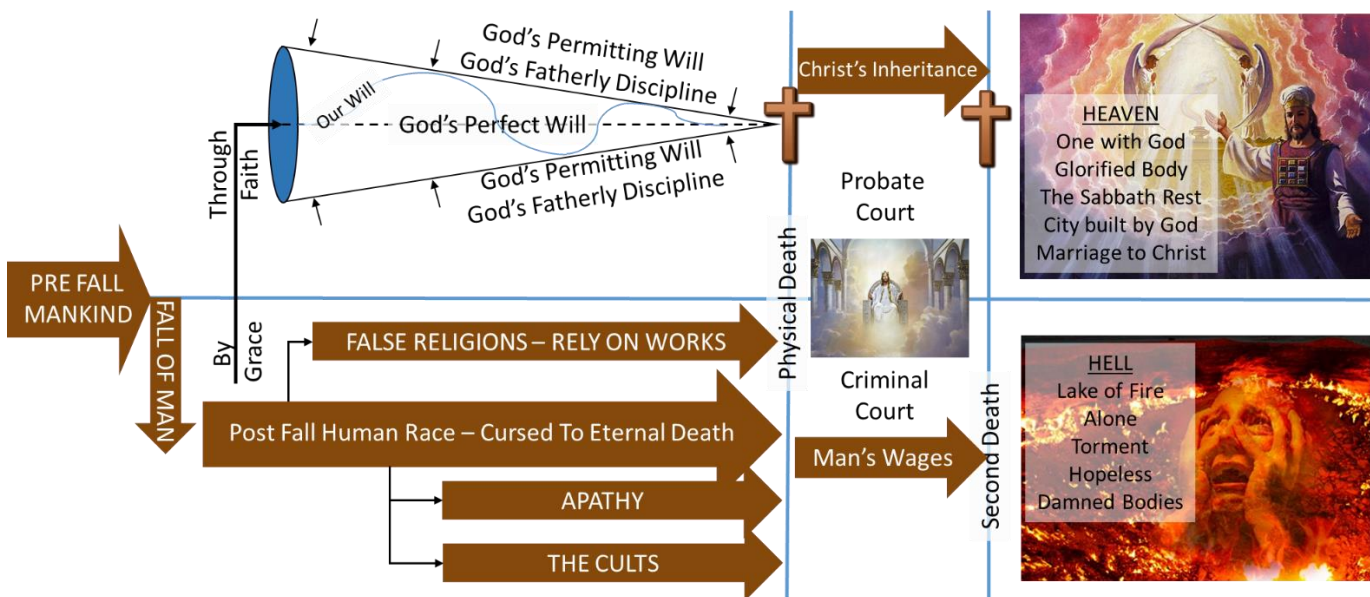
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

- Maybe you are sinning because you refuse to be a “doer” of “making disciples of all nations”...i.e. sharing the Gospel with those around you!
- Are you ashamed of the Gospel...are you hiding your light under a bushel?

Matt 12:30 - "He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me scatters.

If you are a believer, then the Lord’s discipline is coming! SEE HEBREWS CHAPTER 12

HEBREWS VIEW OF SALVATION / SANCTIFICATION / DISCIPLESHIP



Lay Aside Sin / Fix Eyes on Jesus

Hebrews 12:1-3

1Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured

the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

LAY ASIDE EVERY ENCUMBRANCE & SIN

- Don't listen to music which doesn't glorify Christ.
- Don't read gossip or trashy novels which glorify sin.
- Don't wear sensual clothing.
- Don't view people by their temporary flesh (bodies).
- Don't take joy in sin.
- Don't be anxious about anything.
- Do not hide your light under a bushel.

FIX YOUR EYES UPON JESUS

- Listen to music which focuses your mind on Christ.
- Look for truths about Jesus in God's word.
- Wear clothes which glorifies Godliness.
- See them spiritually as a new creation in Christ.
- Take great delight in Jesus Christ and one of his promises
- Present your cares to the Lord in prayer.
- Share the Gospel with a friend or a stranger.

Time To Go To The Spiritual Gym

- **Assignment = Consider ways you need to practice discerning good and evil.**
 - Write down 1 **SIN** to lay aside and 1 corresponding way to fix your eyes on Jesus.
 - Find a trustworthy believing friend...small group, family, personal friend...or come see me!
 - Share your 2 items and invite them to hold you accountable...to pray...and to encourage you.
 - Close on this as a Christmas present to yourself.
 - NOTE: We will add 1 **Encumbrance** next week.
- Remember we are corrupted as follows...
 - Intellectually (thinking right)
 - Volitionally (wanting and choosing right)
 - Affectionately (feeling or loving right)
 - Morally (discerning right)
 - Behaviorally (doing right)
 - Relationally (relate to God and others right)
- **Sins of omission (didn't do when you should have)**
- **Sins of commission (did do when you should not have)**
- **3 Types of Temptations**
 - **Lust of the flesh ...Physical body...gluttony, sexual, etc.**
 - **Lust of eyes ...Mind...pornography, gossip, vanity, coveting, etc.**
 - **Pride of life...Desires...power, greatness, fame, etc.**

