

## **“ARE YOU MATURE?”**

**(Hebrews 6:1-20)**

*November 5, 2017*

### **I. The APPEAL for spiritual maturity**

*But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. Hebrews 5:14*

**The solid food is sound DOCTRINE, rooted in the Word of God and the Gospel of Jesus. Don't we all want that?**

- **\*The author's CHALLENGES:**

- **Don't go BACKWARD**

**Whatever the endeavor, when we stop, we don't stay where we are. We actually begin to SLIDE backward.**

- **Do go FORWARD**

**Keep going! Keep learning!**

- **\*The author's CONCERN:**

- **The IMPOSSIBILITY of the situation**

**Calvin and many others took the approach our author seems to teach here. “It is impossible to restore again to repentance believers who fall away.”**

**The “turncoat” is forcing Jesus to the Cross AGAIN.**

**They subject Jesus to public disgrace AGAIN.**

- **The ILLUSTRATION of the situation**

**Sometimes the land produces GOOD crops, blessed by God to the use of the farmer and people. Other times, the land produces weeds and thorns, USELESS & representing a curse from God. That land must be set to the torch to prevent those weeds from REEMERGING.**

- **\*The author's CONFIDENCE:**

**The author reminds them that God is just, perfectly fair and abundant in love. He wants them to REMAIN in their faith until he calls them home.**

**Our author is saying, “I have confidence in you, I believe in you, you CAN do it!”**

## **II. The ANCHOR for spiritual maturity**

**This desired maturity is assured:**

- **\*Because of the Father's PROMISES**

**-God promised to bless ABRAHAM and he did**

**We often forget the power and SURETY of God's promises. God made this promise:**

*“I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”*  
*Genesis 12:2–3*

**The most important part of all of this is who INITIATED the promises. Always God. It is called a suzerainty covenant, an AGREEMENT between a King and his subjects. The King promises certain benefits, which he promises upon his own good name to fulfill. He also established a certain conditions, like circumcision in this case, which his subjects must obey.**

**God FULFILLED his promises of blessing to Abraham.**

**-God promised to bless US and he will**

**God makes an oath, swearing by himself what he will do. It is IMPOSSIBLE for God to lie, one of the few things that's impossible for him! Because of that, we are greatly encouraged and will be blessed:**

- **\*Because of the SAVIOR’S priesthood**

**This hope is the anchor for OUR souls. When Jesus died upon the cross, that 60' curtain was torn in two, from top to bottom, an act of God himself. Jesus went before us, where the high priest of God had always prayed for the SINS of the people.**

**Jesus not only prayed for the sins, he paid for them all, by the shedding of his OWN precious blood.**