



PRESSING ON

TO MATURITY

A Study of the Book of Hebrews

**FALLING AWAY
FROM THE FAITH**
HEBREWS 6:1-9

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October 28, 2018

Introduction: Is it possible for a Christian to lose his or her salvation? If not, then why does the writer of Hebrews issue the strong warning in today's passage about those who have "fallen away" from God? Today we are going to discover what it means to "fall away" from God and the terrible consequences that await those who do.

Hebrews 6:4-6 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."

Hebrews 5:11 "Concerning him [Jesus Christ] we have much to say, and it is hard to explain since you have become dull of hearing."

I. The Command Against Immaturity (Hebrews 6:1-3)

Hebrews 6:1-3 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 instructions 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."

II. The Consequences of Immaturity (Hebrews 6:4-6)

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A. Non-Christians Who Are Close to Being Saved

B. Christians Who Are Close to Being Lost

Three Arguments for the Security of the Believer

- 1. Christ's payment for my sin was final and complete.**
- 2. Salvation is what God has done for us, not what we do for God.**

1 John 4:10 "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Romans 5:8 "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

John 10:28 "I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand."

- 3. To lose our salvation would be to reverse an act of God.**

C. Christians Who Are Close to Losing the Benefits of Their Salvation

Hebrews 3:12, 17, 19¹² “Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in falling away from the living God. ¹⁷ And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁹ And so we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.”

III. The Ultimate Conclusion of Immaturity (Hebrews 6:7-8)

Hebrews 6:7 “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;”

Hebrews 6:8 “But if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned.”

Hebrews 10:26-27²⁶ “For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a certain terrifying expectation of judgment, and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES.”

A. Immature Christians Lose the Benefits of Salvation

B. Immature Christians Lose Their Rewards

C. Immature Christians Face the Discipline of God

IV. The Confidence of Maturity (Hebrews 6:9)

Hebrews 6:9 “But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way.”

A. We Need to Repent

B. We Need to Press On to Maturity

1. Make sure you are a Christian
2. Build some kind of discipline in your life everyday
3. Listen attentively
4. Find a place of service
5. Obey what you know to be true
6. Make your spiritual life a priority

Conclusion