**SERMON SHEET 10/8/23**

**Study of Hebrews #23**

**“Pressing On to Maturity”**

**Text: Hebrews 6:1-3**

I. Introduction & review

1. The problems of spiritual immaturity.
   1. The immature Christian is slow to understand spiritual truth.
   2. The immature Christian is unable to teach spiritual truth.
   3. The immature Christian is ineffective in living out spiritual truth.
2. The benefits of spiritual maturity.
   1. The mature Christian is able to receive “solid food.”
   2. The mature Christian is able to distinguish good from evil.

II. Pressing on to maturity… from what? (vs. 1-2)

1. Repentance from dead works and faith toward God (v.1)
2. Instruction about washings and the laying on of hands (v. 2)
3. The resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment (v. 2)

III. This we will do if God permits (v. 3).

III. Conclusion – a final word

**QUOTES**

1. Al Mohler:

* *Leaving the elementary teaching of Christ does not mean leaving Christ behind. On the basis of knowing the elementary things, Christians should mature rather than settle for infancy. These Christians needed to move beyond the foundational things and the old covenant of their former Judaism. Foundations are good and necessary for building, but once they have been laid, they do not need to be laid again. The author exhorts his congregation to stop laying the same foundation repeatedly.*
* *Anything is done only if God permits. This awareness deepens dependence on God and drives prayerful expectation of perseverance.*

2. Charles Spurgeon:

*Let us make sure that the foundation is laid, but let us not have continually to lay it again. Let us go on believing and repenting, as we have done; but let us not have to begin believing and begin repenting. Let us go on to something beyond that stage of experience.*

3. Martin Luther:

*When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said “Repent,” He intended that the entire life of believers should be repentance.*

4. Simon Kistemaker:

*Although the writer of Hebrews takes his task of teaching and pastoring seriously, God has to open the hearts of the people who receive instruction in the truths of God’s Word. In fact, this clause may be understood as an introduction to 6:4–6, where the author teaches that for some people repentance has become an impossibility.*

5. John MacArthur:

*Everything revolves around the permission of God. Need for divine enablement is the point… God’s sovereignty should be recognized*.

6. Jay Adams:

*One ancillary reason he wants them to go on toward maturity, doubtless, is because this will separate the true from the false. Those who truly know Christ will respond; those who don’t cannot. And in recognizing these facts, some may actually come to saving faith. After all, as he will show, it is a fearful thing, for one, having once made a profession of faith later to reject it. Why is that and what does that mean? In verses 4 through 9, he explains. We must now take up those purposely frightening verses.*

**SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE**

* **Eph. 2:10; 2 Cor. 13:5; 2 Pet. 1:10; 2 Pet. 3:18**
* **Acts 11:18; Acts 5:31**
* **John 5:25-29; 2 Pet. 3:10-18**
* **2 Cor. 13:5; 1 Cor. 3:5-7**