

The background features a stone relief sculpture, possibly of a biblical figure, rendered in a dark green color. The sculpture is partially obscured by a semi-transparent green overlay that covers the entire image. The text is centered over the sculpture.

HEBREWS

JESUS IS BETTER

Hebrews 5:11–6:3

About this 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 need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, ¹³ for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:11–6:3

^{6:1} Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ² and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. ³ And this we will do if God permits.

Outline

1. The problem
2. The cause
3. The solution

1. The Problem: Spiritual Immaturity

Hebrews 5:12-14

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1. The Problem: Spiritual Immaturity

Application:

a) Do you need to be "spoon-fed" to grow spiritually?

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Application:

- a) Do you need to be "spoon-fed" to grow spiritually?
- b) Do you regularly act in "fleshly" ways?

1 Corinthians 3:1-4

But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³ for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴ For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human?

1. The Problem: Spiritual Immaturity

Application:

- a) Do you need to be "spoon-fed" to grow spiritually?
- b) Do you regularly act in "fleshly" ways?
- c) Do you lack moral or spiritual discernment?

Ephesians 4:11-14

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

2. The Cause: Spiritual Sloth

Hebrews 5:11, 6:12

2. The Cause: Spiritual Sloth

Hebrews 5:11	Hebrews 6:12
Dull of hearing (ESV, NASB, NKJV)	Sluggish (ESV, NASB, NKJV)
Not longer try to understand (NIV)	Lazy (NIV)
Sluggish in Hearing (NET)	Sluggish (NET)
Dull in understanding (NRSV)	Sluggish (NRSV)
Spiritually dull and don't seem to listen (NLT)	Spiritually dull and indifferent (NLT)
Dull of hearing (KJV)	Slothful (KJV)
Too lazy to understand (CSB)	Lazy (CSB)
Sluggish in hearing (LEB)	Sluggish (LEB)

2. The Cause: Spiritual Sloth

Four characteristics:

- 1) Carelessness

2. The Cause: Spiritual Sloth

Four characteristics:

- 1) Carelessness
- 2) Unwillingness to act

2. The Cause: Spiritual Sloth

Four characteristics:

- 1) Carelessness
- 2) Unwillingness to act
- 3) Half-hearted effort

2. The Cause: Spiritual Sloth

Four characteristics:

- 1) Carelessness
- 2) Unwillingness to act
- 3) Half-hearted effort
- 4) Easily discouraged by any possible difficulty

3. The Solution: Spiritual Growth

Hebrews 6:1-3

Hebrews 6:1-3

Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ² and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. ³ And this we will do if God permits.

3. The Solution: Spiritual Growth

Three metaphors for spiritual growth in the NT

a) Physiological (the body)

3. The Solution: Spiritual Growth

Three metaphors for spiritual growth in the NT

- a) Physiological (the body)
- b) Architectural (a building)

3. The Solution: Spiritual Growth

Three metaphors for spiritual growth in the NT

- a) Physiological (the body)
- b) Architectural (a building)
- c) Agricultural (a vine)

3. The Solution: Spiritual Growth

Three applications

a) Physiological (the body) → feed

3. The Solution: Spiritual Growth

Three applications

- a) Physiological (the body) → feed
- b) Architectural (a building) → build

3. The Solution: Spiritual Growth

Three applications

- a) Physiological (the body) → feed
- b) Architectural (a building) → build
- c) Agricultural (a vine) → abide



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