

Emphasis of Hebrews Chapters 1-5

1. The Revelation of Jesus the Christ
2. Hold firmly to the truth of the revelation of Jesus the Christ

“Let us hold fast to our confession that Jesus is the Christ” (Hebrews 4:14, NIV, emphasis added).

“To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, ‘If you hold to [remain steadfast to, obey] my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know [understand] the truth [reality of God], and the truth will set you free” [to live with/for God], (John 8:31-32, NIV, emphasis added). Knowing the truth and receiving freedom is conditional on holding to (obeying/acting on) the teaching (commands and promises) of Jesus.

See [Summary of Hebrews 1-5](#)

This weeks teaching:

Jesus’ Parable of the Soils Luke 8: 4-15 (11-15, NIV)

- 11 This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God.
- 12 Those along the path [hard soil] are the ones [people] who hear [the word, revelation], and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe [acknowledge Jesus as their Savior and devote themselves to him] and be saved.
- 13 Those on the rock [rocky soil] are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it [an emotional response—the word sounds good], but they have no root [a shallow superficial acceptance]. They believe for a while [they hold to the truth for a while], but in the time of testing [KJV: Temptation; GK: Trial¹] they fall away [they let go of the truth and go their own way].
- 14 The seed that fell among thorns [a worldly heart] stands for those who hear [the word], but as they go on their way they are choked [cut off from the word’s sustenance—breath] by life’s worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature [the fruit does not ripen -- the word has no lasting effect on their life] (cf. Matthew 19:16-24; Rev.18: 11).
- 15 But the seed on good [fertile] soil stands for those with a noble and good heart [a prepared, tender, receptive, understanding heart] who hear the word, retain [hold] it, and by persevering [overcoming the obstacles until the harvest] produce a crop [fruit (obedience) pleasing to God] (NIV, emphasis added) (cf. John 15:4).

¹ Temptation: Trial: Being put to the test. God “tempted Abraham” (Gen. 22: 1, KJV) [NIV, tested; GK, tested]. Afflictions are said to tempt or try men -- putting their faith and patience to the test (James 1:2,12; Deut. 8:2), (Easton’s Bible Dictionary).

Perseverance to the End

“Let us not become weary in doing good [obedience to God], for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up” (Galatians: 6:9, NIV).

“Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us” (Hebrews 12:1, NIV).

“Be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position” (2 Peter 3:7, NIV).

“Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful” (Hebrews 10:23, NIV).

“Men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved” (Matthew 10:22, NIV).

Digging Deeper

See: Galatians 5:22-23; Mt. 3:8; Mt. 3:10; Matthew 7:16-27; John 15:2; John 15:1-14; Romans 7:4; Ephesians 5:8-10.

What's Your Next Step?

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