

**Lesson 12 - Hebrews 6:1-8**

**Main Idea** Ultimately, non-believers in the church will repudiate Christ and go back to the world. True believers, however, will be motivated to move forward in their faith and claim Christ as King until the end.

**Study Questions**

1. What would you say is the main message of 5:11-6:12?
2. What does “therefore” (6:1) refer back to? What is the connection between 5:11-14 and 6:1-3?
3. Why is the temptation to earn our salvation through works so strong? Why do we find ourselves returning to fruitless attempts to win God’s favour through works even though we know better?
4. What does it mean to re-crucify the Son of God overall again?
5. In verses 4-8 the author warns about falling away. Why can’t this be referring to true believers losing their salvation?
6. How can believers be confident that their salvation is secure? What are some of the marks of true conversion and genuine salvation?
7. How are maturing committed Christians like the land in 6:7?
8. How are those who fall away like the land in vs. 8?
9. The author uses the agricultural illustration in verse 7 so that the readers may heed his call to perseverance and patience (vv.11-12). How does faith in salvation and a life of serving others (vv.10-11) kindle perseverance and hope in the promises of God? What are the better things that accompany this salvation?

10. What do you think the essential point the author wants to get across in 6:4-8?

11. Why is it significant that the author concludes this warning with words of hope in Hebrews 6:9-10?

### **Whole-Bible Connections**

**Falling Away.** The description in Hebrews 6:4-6 of falling away evokes the context of Israel's wilderness journey and lack of perseverance. Israel experienced the divine gift of God's provision through manna in the wilderness (Ex.16:4); nevertheless they failed to enter the Promised Land because of the unbelief. In the same way, many have experienced the blessings of the new covenant yet spiritually "turn back to Egypt" and forfeit eternal rest. Be warned: those who finally fall away may give external signs of faith before they abandon Christ (Heb.6:7-8). To "fall away" from God leads to death and eternal judgment (3:12; 12:15).

### **Personal Reflection**

- Take time to ponder our text and consider where you stand in relationship to Jesus Christ. Pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit in understanding what makes you a follower of Him.
  
- What are areas in your life that need more spiritual focus and attention?
  
- Take time this week to draw closer to the Lord through fellowship with other believers - perhaps your small group or one or two friends in the church.