

Going on unto Perfection
(Hebrews 6:1-3)

Introduction:

1. According to Hebrews 6:1, God wants His children to *"go on unto perfection."*
2. God does not want His children to stay at the same spiritual level -- He wants us to grow, develop, and mature.
3. In our lesson we are concentrating on a number of passages that will help us to fulfill this responsibility.
4. As we search the Scriptures to know what the Lord requires of us . . .

Discussion:

- I. WE MUST UNDERSTAND WHAT PERFECTION IS
 - A. We can learn what perfection is by defining "perfect" ["complete" as illustrated in 2 Chronicles 8:16].
 - B. We can further understand what perfection is by observing why the Hebrew Christians were instructed to *"go on unto perfection."*
 1. We learn from Hebrews 5:11-14 that these people had not matured spiritually.
 - a. (vs.11) They were *"dull of hearing."*
 - b. (vs.12) They had not developed into teachers.
 - c. (vs.13) Spiritually, they were still babies.
 2. We also learn from Hebrews 6:1-3 that these people needed to build up past the foundation.
 - C. Now that we understand what perfection is, we need to point out that . . .
- II. GOD MAKES HIS CHILDREN PERFECT
 - A. God wants His children to be perfect, but this is not something we can do ourselves -- it is God who makes us perfect (Hebrews 13:20-21).
 - B. We must understand that it is God who makes us perfect as we follow His instructions.
 - C. This leads us to our next point.
- III. GOD HAS GIVEN US WHAT WE NEED SO WE CAN GO ON UNTO PERFECTION
 - A. (2 Timothy 3:16-17) He has given us the Scriptures.
 1. The Scriptures are profitable for:
 - a. *"doctrine"*: teaching, instruction
 - b. *"reproof"*: pointing out our ways which are wrong
 - c. *"correction"*: restoring to an upright condition
 - d. *"instruction in righteousness"*: teach us how to live righteous lives.
 2. If we will benefit from this information revealed in the Scriptures, we will be *"perfect"* [completely equipped unto every good work].
 3. Let us remember the admonition given in 1 Peter 2:2: *"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby."*
 - B. (Ephesians 4:11-13) The Lord also put teachers in the church *"for the perfecting of the saints."*
 1. Teachers are responsible for communicating God's Word.
 2. As we teach we must remember that one of our purposes is to help God's people become *"perfect."*
 - C. Let us turn our attention to . . .
- IV. SOME SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS THAT RELATE TO BEING PERFECT
 - A. We must treat our enemies correctly (Matthew 5:43-48).
 - B. We must forget the past and press toward the mark (Philippians 3:13-15).
 - C. We must face trials in the right way (James 1:2-5).
 - D. We must bridle our tongues (James 3:2).

Conclusion:

1. We have shown that God wants His children to go on unto perfection.
2. Those who do so will be blessed (2 Corinthians 13:11).
3. The proper approach to going on unto perfection is revealed in Hebrews 6:3.