

Hebrews
(Lesson 8)

Introduction:

1. The first section (1:1-4:13) emphasizes "the superiority of Christ as God's spokesman."
2. The second section (4:14-ch.10) emphasizes "the superiority of Christ as High Priest."
 - a. (4:14-5:10) Christ is shown to be a great High Priest.
 - b. One reason why Christ is a great High Priest is because He was called after the order of Melchisedec (5:6, 10).
3. Before discussing the relationship between Christ and Melchisedec in ch.7, the writer stressed the need for spiritual growth (5:11-ch.6).

Discussion:

- I. (5:11-14) SPIRITUAL IMMATURITY IS STRONGLY REBUKED
 - A. (vs.11) The relationship between Christ and Melchisedec was difficult to explain because the Hebrew Christians were spiritually immature.
 - B. 8 marks of spiritual immaturity include:
 1. being dull of hearing (Matthew 13:15)
 2. not being able to teach others
 3. forgetting the first principles
 4. being unskilled in the use of God's Word
 5. being a babe
 6. failing to grow spiritually
 7. failing to exercise the spiritual senses
 8. not being able to discern between good and evil.
- II. (ch.6) CHRISTIANS ARE ENCOURAGED TO OVERCOME SPIRITUAL IMMATURITY
 - A. (6:1-3) Christians are admonished to:
 1. leave [go beyond] the principles of the doctrine of Christ
 2. go on to perfection (1 Peter 2:1-3; Ephesians 4:11-16; Philippians 3:12-16).
 - B. (6:4-8) Christians must understand the consequences of falling away.
 - C. (6:9-20) A message of encouragement is given.
 1. (vs.9-12) God will not forget acts of service offered in His name (Matthew 10:42; 25:40).
 2. (vs.13-20) The certainty of God's promises gives hope.
 - a. (vs.13-14) God made a promise to Abraham (Genesis 22:16-18).
 - b. (vs.15) After patiently enduring, Abraham obtained this promise.
 - c. (vs.16-20) Because God's promises are dependable, Christians have hope "*as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast.*"