

**INTRODUCTION: DISCOURAGEMENT & ENCOURAGEMENT** (c.5,6 & c.10; see Dt.30:19,1f)

- A. EXHORTATION SURROUNDING INSTRUCTION** (5:11-6:20 [7:1-10:18] 10:19-39)
- B. WARNING SURROUNDING ENCOURAGEMENT** (5:11-6:8 [6:9,10] 6:11,12f; and 10:26-31 [10:32-34] 10:35-39)
- C. OVERLAP AND CONTINUATION: GROW UP; DON'T DIE** (5:11-6:12)
  - 1. *do press on* to maturity! (6:1; see 5:1-6:3,11,12; see 1/26/20 sermon; see 10:19-25)
  - 2. *do not fall away* to eternal damnation! (6:6; see 6:4-10; see 10:26f)

**I. WARNING: AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION** (6:4-8)

- A. IMPOSSIBLE TO REPENT AGAIN** (4,6; see 12:17; see Mt.27:4f; Acts 1:16f)
- B. ONCE vs. AGAIN** (4,6; 10:26; see 7:27; 9:12,26f; 10:2,10,f; see Gal.2:20; 5:24)
- C. EXPERIENCE OF THE GOSPEL** (4,5; see 10:32,26; 2:1-4; 1Cor.12:1f,11; see Acts 1:17; Mt.7:21-23)
- D. THEN FALL AWAY** (6; see 3:12; 10:26,29; Num.15:22f,30f (Peter/Judas); Mk.3:29; 1Jn.1:9; 2:19; 5:16)
- E. PARABLE OF THE SOILS** (7,8; see Mt.13:1f; Is.5:1f)

**II. ENCOURAGEMENT: A HOPEFUL SITUATION** (6:9,10)

- A. TEACHING OUT OF PERSONAL, PASTORAL CARE** (6:9a; see 11f; 10:19f,35f; c.1-13; see Mk.6:34)
- B. PERSUADED BY EVIDENCE OF LOVE** (9,10; see 10:32-34; Mt.7:21f,16f; Gal.5:22f; 2Pt.1:10,5f)
- C. OBEDIENCE TO THE GREAT COMMANDMENT** (10; see Mt.22:37f)

**III. EXHORTATION: BE DILIGENT IN FAITH FOR HOPE** (6:11,12)

- A. EVIDENCE FOR HOPE OF THEIR REPENTANCE** (6:9f,11f; see 5:11f)
- B. SAME DILIGENCE IN WORD FOR MATURITY AS IN LIFE** (11; see 1, 5:11f; 10:22f)
- C. NOT SLUGGISH BUT IMITATORS OF MATURE, PERSEVERING BELIEVERS** (12f; 5:11f; see 10:36f,39)

**IV. APPLICATION: TURN FROM LAZINESS TO DILIGENCE IN THE WORD** (5:11f; 6:12)

- A. UNDERSTAND THAT APOSTACY IS THE FULL, FINAL & UNCHANGEABLE REJECTION OF CHRIST** (6:6; see 3:12; 10:26,29; 12:17; Num.15:22f,30f (Peter/Judas); Mk.3:29; 1Jn.1:9; 2:19; 5:16)
- B. BE TERRIFIED OF APOSTACY AND FLEE FROM IT!** (6:6; 10:26-31; see 1Cor.10:14; 6:18)
- C. HEED THE WARNING SO YOU DON'T TAKE THIS FALL** (5:11,14; 6:11,12; see 2Tim.3:14-17)
- D. DON'T JUST GO THROUGH THE MOTIONS BUT ASK GOD TO BLESS THE MEANS** (6:4f; 4:2; see Acts 2:42; 16:14; 1Th.1:5; Lk.24:45; 1Pt.1:3,23)
- E. GOOD WORKS ARE THE RESULT OF GOOD WORDS, NOT A SUBSTITUTE** (6:9f; 10:32f; see Ex.20:1f; Eph.2:5f,10; 4:11f; 2tm.3:17; Jms.2:14)
- F. DEVOTE YOURSELF TO THE WHOLE OF THE BIBLE SO THAT YOU WILL NOT PERISH IN THIS WILDERNESS BUT MATURE AND PERSEVERE INTO THE NEW CREATION** (5:11-6:12; see 3:7-4:11; see 2Tm.3:14-17; Acts 2:42; 6:4; 1Tm.4:12f)

*Brethren, what shall WE DO?* (see Acts 2:37f)