"BETTER THINGS CONCERNING YOU"

(Hebrews 5:11 - 6:12)

I can still hear my dad say to me, "Son, you know better than that."

These brethren have (5:11) "become dull of hearing" and (6:12) "become sluggish," and this text exhorts (6:9) "beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation."

1. (5:12) "BY THIS TIME ... " - these brethren were not increasing in knowledge.

"you ought to be teachers" - not 'stand and deliver,' but, speakers. (1 Peter 3:15)

"you have come to need milk and not solid food"

"unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe."

"solid food belongs to those ... who by reason of use ... discern both good and evil."

2. (6:1) "LET US GO ON TO PERFECTION" ("MATURITY")

"leaving the discussion of the elementary $\, \ldots \,$ not laying again the foundation $\, \ldots \,$ "

Not keep laying the foundation: rather, the foundation supports the structure. "Leaving" does not mean abandon; but, "move beyond" or "go on" "build on."

3. (v6) "IF THEY FALL AWAY" ("HAVE FALLEN AWAY")

"They" - the Christians who have received abundant blessings: (v4-5) "those"

"who were once enlightened" - (Ephesians 5:8; Hebrews 10:32)

"tasted the heavenly gift" - (Ephesians 1:3)

"have become partakers of the Holy Spirit" - (Ephesians 1:13-14; Acts 5:32)

"have tasted the good word of God" - (1 Peter 1:22-23)

"If they fall away" - you know "better" than that!

(v4) "It is impossible for those ... (6) "to renew them ... "

Reference to "those" who have tasted, and now have rejected, the sole means of their salvation. There is not a "Plan B" or new gospel or alternate route. The message "they" rejected is the only one I have to present to them.

(v6) "Since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put to an open shame." Note (Hebrews 10:28-29)

4. (v9-12) "WE ARE CONFIDENT OF BETTER THINGS CONCERNING YOU, YES, THINGS THAT ACCOMPANY SALVATION"

[&]quot;your work and labor of love" - (2 Thessalonians 3:13)

[&]quot;you have ministered to the saints, and do minister"

[&]quot;we desire that each one of you show the same diligence ... until the end" "do not become sluggish"

[&]quot;imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promise"