

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor

Life Groups; Week of Sunday, February 26, 2023; Hebrews 5:11-6:20; Steve Thiel

Sermon Theme: Though many will reject the gospel, repudiate Christ, and turn back to worldly ways, those who persevere in the faith will inherit the promises that God has made to them in Jesus. Therefore, believers have an unshakable hope in God's Word which we must cling to at all times and in every situation!

I. The Warning Against Apostasy – Read Hebrews 5:11-6:8

- A. The author of Hebrews has a major concern that he's warning against. What do you think it looks like to be dull of hearing (5:11) or sluggish in our pursuit of Christ (6:12)?
- B. What do you think it means to eat spiritual solid food instead of drinking milk? Or to leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and move on to maturity? How does Hebrews 5:14 and the ability to distinguish good from evil help us to understand what spiritual maturity looks like?
- C. What exactly is the impossibility in Hebrews 6:4-8? How do you wrestle with the ideas of someone falling away from the faith and the reality that they never were a Christian?
- D. Read Hebrews 6:7-8. What observations do you make about the illustration? How does the illustration help with the interpretation of verses 4-6? What do you think it means to "crucify once again the Son of God to your own harm?"

II. The Promise of Assurance – Read Hebrews 6:9-18

- A. According to Hebrews 6:9-10, on what basis is the author confident that his readers are truly believers? How is Hebrews 10:32-36 helpful in understanding the context of his statement?
- B. What is the main point of the illustration regarding Abraham? What details about that story in Genesis 22 are helpful to encourage us to wait for the fulfillment of God's promise?
- C. Read Hebrews 6:17-18. What is the "hope set before us"? How is verse 19 helpful?
- D. How does God's unchangeableness encourage you to run to Him in times of trouble? As you think about your experience as a Christian, what are some tangible ways that the truth of God's Word has anchored your soul and encouraged you to hold on to your hope in Christ?

III. The Anchor of Our Souls – Read Hebrews 6:19-20

- A. According to verse 19, what is the sure and steadfast anchor of the soul? How might this verse be an encouragement to the author's audience? How is it an encouragement to you?
- B. What does it look like for a soul to be tethered to the anchor? How can we cultivate a heart that is tethered to the Lord Jesus Christ, the good news of the gospel, and the things of God?
- C. According to verse 20, how does Jesus being our eternal high priest and the "forerunner on our behalf" encourage us to hold fast to our confession even in the midst of great difficulties?