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## Moving on to Maturity

By Johnny Caruso on August 3, 2022

### TODAY'S READING: Hebrews 6

When Trish and I travel, one of my favorite things to do is take city tours and visit historical homes. We love walking around towns, seeing the historic sites (Charleston and Savannah are places we love to visit), and considering how all the homes, churches and buildings are built on a firm foundation or they would not have lasted this long. The foundation must be built right.

The same is true for believers. Our foundation must be well constructed. We must know and understand certain things first in order to receive the deeper things of God later. The foundation always comes first. The cornerstone is built on Jesus. Then, as we get to know Him and read His Word, certain principles and precepts are the base we are building. What is being formed will support the many deep truths of God in the future. But to build, the foundation must be in place first.

Carrying over the thought from the end of Chapter 5, the scripture today is a call to start moving in the direction of maturity. Chapter 6 begins with "therefore" and, as the saying goes, any time you see this in scripture you need to pause and find out what it is "there for." At the end of Chapter 5 he rebukes the people for their laziness in understanding important beginning truths. They still needed the milk showing their infancy. They were not willing to grow and train themselves to understand even the basic principles of God. Because of this, he is saying it is time to move on to spiritual maturity. They needed to take the foundation of what they had been taught and strive for more understanding.

There are elementary truths that should be the foundation of our lives. These doctrines are important to know so we can teach them to others. Understanding these things concerning repentance, faith, baptisms, laying on of hands, the resurrection and eternal judgment are the base things of God. They are beginning truths. Having these as our foundation of faith assures that the principles built on them will be secure and supported. This is why the writer says it is time to move on toward completeness and perfection belonging to the spiritually mature, because the next principles discussed in Hebrews can be hard to understand. The only way we will understand advanced teaching is a firm foundational understanding to support the deeper truths.

Just like older historic buildings need to be stable for the entire building to be completed, we are to continue growing in the Word until the very end. God's Word is not a one-time read. Each time we read It, It brings more understanding than the time before. We plant these seeds in our hearts from the Word of God, and we can expect much return on our investment. David said we will be like a tree planted by the streams of water yielding fruit in season and prospering (Psalm 1:2-3).

**PRAYER:** Thank You, Lord, for Your Word and how we mature in our hearts and lives to be more like You.

**TOMORROW'S READING:** Hebrews 7

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