

6:1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,

6:2 of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

6:3 And this we will do if God permits.

6:4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit,

6:5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,

6:6 if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.

6:7 For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God;

6:8 but if it bears thorns and briars, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned.

6:9 But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner.

6:10 For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

6:11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end,

6:12 that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

6:13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself,

6:14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you."

6:15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.

6:16 For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute.

6:17 Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath,

6:18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

6:19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil,

6:20 where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever

according to the order of Melchizedek.

Good morning, everyone.

I know it is the end of the rainy season, but it has been raining a lot. Yesterday, there was damage from flooding in Izumo area.

Please evacuate as soon as possible and take precautions against water damage. Also, please be careful of heat stroke.

Now let us savor Hebrews 6 together. At the end of the previous chapter, we read as follows
5:12 You have long ago become teachers, and now you must once again be taught by men the rudiments of the word of God. 5:13 For ye need not hard food, but milk.

5:13 For he who drinks all milk is a little child, and cannot taste the word of righteousness.

5:14 But hard food is for adults who have been trained to use their senses to discern between right and wrong.

The book of Hebrews, written to Jews who could not accept Jesus, compared Him to angels, Moses to Melchizedek, and Jesus as the High Priest above all. Even so, it has been repeatedly said that how could they not understand or accept the greatness of Jesus even though he has been their teacher for a long time now?

In chapter 6, there is an exhortation to Christians who have believed in Jesus to follow His spoken teachings, persevere, and win what He has promised.

1 Let us therefore leave behind us the rudiments of the doctrine of Christ, and let us go forward with a view to perfection. Now more than ever, repentance of dead works and faith in God,

2 Let us not learn again and again the basic doctrines of the washing, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

3 With God's permission, let us do so.

Repentance for dead deeds, faith in God, the teaching on washing and the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment were also taught under Judaism.

The rudiments of Judaism were also the foundation of Christianity, but they were rudiments to Christianity compared to the salvation of Jesus Christ, which is built on that foundation.

Repentance for dead works and faith in God, the teaching of the washing and the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment, are very important doctrines, but

they are still rudimentary teachings.

Deuteronomy 30:10 For thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, and shalt keep the commandments and the statutes which are written in this book of the law, and shalt turn to the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

30:11 This commandment which I command thee this day is not hard, neither is it far off.

30:12 For it is not in heaven; therefore we say not, Who shall go up to heaven for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

30:13 And since it is not beyond the sea, we do not say, "Who will go across the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?"

30:14 The word is very near unto thee, and is in thy mouth, and in thy heart: therefore thou mayest do it.

30:15 Behold, I have set before thee this day life and blessing, and death and woe.

30:16 I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, and to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments, and his statutes, and his ordinances. If thou shalt obey them, thou shalt live, and thy number shall be great. And the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land which thou shalt take.

Matthew 15:1 And the Pharisees and the scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem, and said, "Why are you here?"

15:2 "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the people of old? They do not wash their hands at meals.

15:3 Jesus answered and said, "Why do you also, by your own traditions, break God's present commandment?"

15:4 God said, "Honor your father and your mother," and, "He who disrespects his father or mother is surely condemned to death.

15:5 And yet you say, "If any man shall say to his father or mother, This thing which I am to give thee is an offering; and they shall say, This thing is not an offering; and they shall say, This thing is not an offering; and they shall say, This thing is not an offering,

15:6 And you say, 'If anyone says to his father or mother, "This thing that is to be given to you is an offering," you need not honor your father or mother. Thus by your own traditions you are annulling the word of God.

15:7 Isaiah, you hypocrites, makes this appropriate prophecy about you,

15:8 "This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

15:9 They teach the falsehood of men, and worship me in vain.

15:10 Then Jesus called the crowd together and said, "Hear and understand.

15:11 What goes into the mouth does not defile anyone. Instead, it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.

15:12 Then the disciples came near and said to Jesus, "Do you know that the Pharisees stumbled when they heard His words?"

15:13 Jesus answered and said to them, "Whatever my heavenly Father has not planted, it will be plucked out.

15:14 Leave them as they are. They are the blind leading the blind. If a blind man leads a blind man, they will both fall into a pit.

15:15 Peter answered and said, "Explain the parable.

15:16 Jesus said, "Do you not yet understand?"

15:17 Know ye not that whatsoever cometh into the mouth goeth into the belly, and out?

15:18 But what goes out of the mouth comes from the heart, and it defiles a man.

15:19 For evil thoughts, that is, murder, adultery, misbehavior, theft, perjury, and slander, come out of the heart,

15:20 For these things defile a man. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man."

The resurrection and eternal life of the messenger also cannot be understood apart from the atonement by the cross of Jesus and God's salvation through His resurrection.

1 Let us, therefore, leave behind us the rudiments of Christ's doctrine and go forward with a view to perfection.

Now, up to this point, it seemed to me that he was speaking to the Jews who did not know Jesus, but here is what he says: "6:4 For once he received the light, and was saved, and became the light of the world.

6:4 Once you have received the light, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and are partakers of the Holy Spirit, 6:5 And you will know the goodness of God, and the truth will be revealed to you, and you will be like unto Him,

6:5 And they that have tasted the good word of God, and the power of the world to come,

6:6 And if they fall away after that, it is impossible for them to return to repentance again, since they will again crucify the Son of God and expose Him to the world.

Once they have received the light, tasted the heavenly gift, received the Holy Spirit, and received the good word, they are Christians who have believed in Jesus.

But as in the parable of the sower,

Luke 8:13 Those who fell on the rock are those who, when they heard the Word, were willing to accept it, but who, having no root, believed for a while, but when the time of testing came, they abandoned their faith.

8:14 Fallen among thorns are those who, as they pass the days after they hear, are blocked by the cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and do not come to ripeness of fruit.

It is written of those who go away in this way.

6:7 For example, if the land sucks in the rain that often falls on it and grows crops that are useful to those who cultivate it, God blesses it.

The land gets water in abundance. It is to grow crops that are useful to those who cultivate it. That is how the blood was created, and that is how the water was poured. When we proceed according to God's will, we will be blessed by God. We, too, were created to do God's will. We were created to receive God's blessings in abundance so that we can be fruitful.

John 15:16 You did not choose me, but I chose you. I have chosen you, and have set you up. And I have set you up. 15:16 And I have chosen you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain forever; and that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

15:17 I command you these things that you may love one another.

Matthew 17:15 "Lord, have mercy on my son. He suffers from epilepsy. Again and again he falls into the fire and into the water.

17:16 So I brought him to the disciples, but they could not heal him.

17:17 Jesus answered and said, "Oh, what unbelieving and crooked times! How long shall I be with you? How long shall I be patient with you? Bring him here to me, and I will bring him to you.

17:18 When Jesus rebuked him, the evil spirit departed from the child. And the child was healed at that time.

17:19 Then the disciples came to Jesus secretly, saying, "Why did we not cast out the spirit?"

17:20 And Jesus said, "Because of your lack of faith. I remind you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Thus there is nothing that you cannot do.

17:21 [But this kind cannot be driven out except by prayer and fasting].

6:8 But if you let thorns and thistles grow, they will become useless; they will soon be cursed, and at last they will be burned.

6:9 But, beloved, we say, "But if thorns and thistles be allowed to grow, they will be useless; they will be cursed, and finally burned. 6:9 But, beloved, we are convinced of a better thing concerning salvation.

What a waste it would be if it were to become useless!

But God is patiently teaching and training us so that we will not be so useless.

6:10 For God is not unrighteous, so He will not forget your works and the love that you once served and still serve the saints and have shown for His name.

6:11 We show the same zeal, even to the end that every one of you may hold out hope to the end,

6:12 We desire that you will not be slothful, but that you will follow the example of those who inherit the promises with faith and perseverance.

God is not unjust. God is not wicked, but good; not dishonest, but honest; not unrighteous, but righteous; not unjust, but faithful, who cares about His relationship with us. He never forgets our work, the service we have given to fellow saints, and the love we still serve and show for His name.

We can hold out hope to the end, every last one of us, even in our weakness. For this purpose, let us continue to follow the example of those who inherit the promises with zeal, with sincerity, with diligence, without sloth, and with faith and perseverance. Abraham is mentioned as one of those to emulate.

6:13 Now when God made a promise to Abraham, swearing by Himself, because there is none higher than He,

6:14 "I will surely bless thee, and surely I will multiply thy seed.

6:15 Thus Abraham waited patiently and obtained what was promised.

This is what it says about Abraham.

Genesis 22:1 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "O Abraham! He said, "Here am I."

22:2 And God said, "Take your son, your beloved only son Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him as a burnt offering on the mountain which I will show you.

22:3 And Abraham arose early in the morning, and set the rack upon his ass, and took the

two young men, and Isaac his son, and broke the burnt offering, and stood up, and went out to the place which God had shown him.

22:4 On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place afar off.

22:5 Then Abraham said to the young men, "You stay here with the asses. I and the strawman will go over there to worship, and then we will return to you.

22:6 And Abraham took the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and took fire and a knife in his hand, and they went together.

22:7 And Isaac said to Abraham his father, "Father! He answered, "Son, here I am. Isaac said, "Where is the fire and the firewood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

22:8 Abraham said, "Son, God Himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering. And they went together.

22:9 And when they came to the place which God had shown him, Abraham built there an altar, and laid out the burnt offering, and bound his son Isaac, and laid him upon the altar-burnt offering.

22:10 And when Abraham put forth his hand, and was about to slay his son with a knife,

22:11 And a messenger of the Lord called to him from heaven, saying, "Abraham, Abraham! He answered, "Yes, I am here.

22:12 And the messenger said, "Do not lay a hand on the straw, nor do anything to him. Do not lay a hand on the straw, nor do anything to him, for he is your son, your only begotten Son. I now know that you are a man who fears God, because you have not spared your son, even your only son, for my sake.

22:13 At this time Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw behind him a ram with its horns hanging over a bush. And Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it as a burnt offering instead of the kid.

22:14 And Abraham called the name of the place Adonai Eleh. For this reason the people say even to this day, "There is provision on the mountain of the LORD.

22:15 And again the angel of the LORD called Abraham from heaven,

22:16 And he said, "The LORD said, 'I swear by myself. Because thou hast done this thing, and hast not spared thy son, thy only son,

22:17 I will greatly bless thee, and greatly multiply thy seed, as the stars of heaven, and as the sand on the beach. 22:17 I will bless thee greatly, and multiply thy seed as the stars of heaven, and as the sand of the beach,

22:18 And all the nations of the earth shall be blessed by your offspring. For thou hast obeyed my word.

Abraham had finally obtained Isaac through his years of prayer, but his own wife was also in

her old age, and he did not want to protect his miracle child, but to do what seemed like an impossible task: to do the word of the Lord to offer up Isaac.

6:16 On earth, man swears by that which is above him, and his oath is a guarantee to shut out all opposition.

6:17 Therefore God wished to show more clearly the immutability of his plan to those who would inherit what he had promised, and he guaranteed it by an oath.

6:18 That we, who have fled the world to catch hold of the hope that is set before us, may be strengthened by these two immutable things which God hath set up, which cannot be falsified.

God has sworn to Himself above all this, "I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring. This was Abraham's hope and desire, even if he could not have it. God gives us His promise as an unchangeable promise. We know how important it is for us to have the nearness of the One who cannot lie, who cannot speak untruth, who cannot err, and who lives righteously, because it is the oath of the One who "cannot lie," who swears by Himself.

We are to receive "powerful encouragement," for "we who have fled the world to catch hold of the hope that is set before us. We have fled an uncertain world to catch hold of the hope that is set before us.

1 John 2:7 Beloved, I write to you. I write unto you not a new commandment, but an old commandment, which ye received from the beginning. And the old commandment is the word which you have already heard.

2:8 And a new commandment he will write unto you. And it is the truth for him and for you. For darkness has passed away, and the true light is already shining.

2:9 He who says, "I am in the light," and yet hates his brother, is still in darkness.

2:10 He that loveth his brother is in the light, and shall not stumble.

2:11 He that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not where he goeth. For the darkness has blinded his eyes.

2:12 Children, I write this to you. I write to you because in His name many of your sins have been forgiven.

2:13 Fathers. I write to you because you have known Him who is from the beginning. 2:14 Young men, I write to you because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write

to you because you have overcome the wicked.

2:14 Children. I write to you because you have known the Father. 2:14 I write unto you, O fathers, because ye have known the Father. I write to you because you have known Him who is from the beginning. O ye young men! I write to you because you are strong, and the word of God has come to you, and you have overcome the wicked.

2:15 Love not the world and the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of possessions, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

2:17 The world and the lusts of the world pass away. But he who does the will of God abides forever.

BTW 2:13 For it is God that worketh in you, and maketh your desires to come to pass, and it is God that worketh in you: for it is good for you that your desires come to pass.

2:14 Be not murmuring and doubting in all things.

2:15 That ye may be blameless and pure, and the children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and wicked age. You hold fast the word of life, and shine in the world like a star among them.

John 14:27 I leave you peace. My peace I give unto you; my peace I give unto you. I give it to you differently than the world gives it to you. 6:19 And this desire of mine is to give you peace, and I will give it to you.

6:19 This hope is for us, so to speak, an anchor to make our souls safe and steadfast, and to bring us "behind the curtain.

6:20 Into that tabernacle Jesus entered as High Priest, equal to Melchizedek forever, as the forerunner for us.

This hope, this conviction that if the Lord has promised it, we cannot be wrong, and that God has confirmed His promise through Christ, is the anchor that makes the soul secure and steadfast, and brings us "behind the curtain.

Into that curtain Jesus entered as High Priest equal to Melchizedek for all eternity, as a forerunner for us. Here is our future path. We hope that we will advance with perseverance and zeal, together with the One who is faithful, who believes, who remembers, and who protects, clasping the path of promise and hope that God has promised and blessed us with.

◇Prayer; Heavenly Father, thank you for today's worship. Thank you for your grace and mercy that enables us to reach maturity, even though we seem to be forever following the rudiments of your teachings. Thank you that we may hold out hope to the end, that through faith and perseverance we may inherit what has been promised, that we who have fled the world to hold out the hope we seek may be strengthened and encouraged, and that this hope we have may be protected by a steady anchor upon which our souls may rely. Thank you so much. Bless our families and the people of our community. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.