



For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away *from it*. (2:1)

Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart in falling away from the living God. (3:12)

Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it. (4:1)

Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall through *following* the same example of disobedience. (4:11)

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. (4:14)

## THE ALL-SUFFICIENT HIGH PRIEST

Hebrews 4:14-10:18

### Hebrews 5:11- 6:20

- The author aims to awaken his readers from complacency and direct them to the path of persevering faith (cf. 6:12)
- shame (5:11-6:3); warning (6:4-8); consolation (6:9-12); assurance (6:13-20)

<sup>11</sup> Concerning which we have much to say, and *it is* hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. <sup>12</sup> For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. <sup>13</sup> For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an babe. <sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, who because of their mature state have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

<sup>1</sup> Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, <sup>2</sup> of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. <sup>3</sup> And this we will do, if God permits.

(Hebrews 5:11-6:3)

## The Danger of Dull Hearing

### 1. A Dangerous Condition

- once receptive, they were now failing to attend, grasp and heed God's word in Christ
- they were a step away from a "hard-hearted" hearing and ultimate loss

## The Danger of Dull Hearing

### 2. An Inexcusable Regression

- instead of being teachers, they again needed to be taught the initial instruction in biblical faith
- though spiritual adults, they were like infants who are unskilled in discerning and following the right course of action

## The Danger of Dull Hearing

### 3. A Desirable Contrast

- the spiritual senses of the mature have been trained by the exercise of the life of faith
- they are able to discern and follow what is true for a life of faithful obedience while detecting and spurning every hindrance

## The Danger of Dull Hearing

### ➤ Response:

- 1) Those who have never responded
- 2) Those who have spiritual regressed
- 3) Those who are spiritually mature