The Point of No Return

Adam Willingham · Hebrews 6:4–6 · Series: **Sermons from Hebrews**

INTRODUCTION

- I believe that this passage clearly teaches that those who were at one time genuine Christians can so apostasize, they can fall away from God with such a hard heart that they actually are impossible to reach.
- Am I someone who is dull of hearing? Am I a Christian who is not bearing fruit? Because if you are, then you're in danger of falling away.
- Jesus is superior to the law of Moses, superior to anything that could be offered back there. Why would you turn away from Christ to something that is far inferior?

1 People Who Were at One Time Genuine Christians

Hebrews 6:4–5; Hebrews 2:9; Acts 5:32

- For in the case of those who have once been enlightened, so they were enlightened. They had received light.
- So when we're talking here about tasting the heavenly gift, that means experiencing it.
- Partakers means sharers. So these individuals had become sharers with other saints of the Holy Spirit.
- The description is very clear that we're talking about individuals who are at one time genuine Christians.

2 The Danger of Apostasy

Hebrews 6:6; Hebrews 6:18; 2 Peter 2:20–22

- This is a complete abandonment of Christ, and not only an abandonment of Jesus Christ, but also a rejection of those blessings that were once held.
- Their hearts can no longer be touched because they have become so hardened as a result of their own decision and the distance that they have placed between themselves and Christ.
- You know what impossible means? It means impossible, just like in 6.18, when it says it is impossible for God to lie.
- When you turn against Christ, you're crucifying him afresh.

3 Falling Away Is Possible

Hebrews 10:26–31

- First of all, we need to realize that falling away is possible.
- This passage in Hebrews 6, 4 through 6 is as clear as any in teaching that falling away is possible.
- It's not just that you were once saved. You must hold fast to that message that was preached to you. Continue to serve God faithfully.
- For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.

4 Anyone Can Repent Who Wants To

- We need to realize that anyone can repent who wants to.
- These people didn't want to repent. That's partly why it was impossible to renew them again to repentance.
- Just by the fact that you want to repent indicates you haven't reached that level of apostasy that is impossible to reach you. You can still come back.
- But realize that the farther you drift, the harder it is to repent.

5 Falling Away Can Be Permanent

Hebrews 2:1

- We must pay much closer attention to what we have heard so that we do not drift away from it.
- It can be a gradual process. So you start by not putting your toes in the water. Stay close to Jesus Christ. Don't forsake him.
- There are cases where people, because of their decision and their utter rejection of Jesus Christ are impossible to reach.
- And they have reached the point of no return. Or as I like to call it, the point of no repentance.

6 God Will Eventually Stop Trying

Romans 1:26

- We need to realize that God will eventually stop trying. He'll eventually stop reaching out.
- God gave them over to their degrading passions. He gave them over to what they wanted. And he will do the same for us eventually.
- If we reject a love of the truth and do not receive the love of the truth, 2 Thessalonians teaches, God will send you a strong delusion.

MY NOTES