



Today, from Hebrews chapter 5, will be discussing Baby Believers. These immature believers are not able to handle the solid food of the Word. Why? They are too immature. They are not able to digest it. So how does a believer move from milk to the meat of God's Word?

In Hebrews 5:11-14 the author warns the readers about being immature. He actually straight up calls them spiritual babies. To summarize

what the author is saying- Baby believers fail to progress, You need to grow up! You must build upon the foundation of Christ. Today we will see three consistent failures of baby believers and one failure that they cannot afford to make.

### I. Baby Believers fail to Listen. (5:11)

#### A. They are lazy.

That greek word for dull has been translated as sluggish, don't seem to listen, and they no longer tried to listen.

#### B. They are unresponsive.

They were no longer responding in immediate obedience to the truth of God's Word. They are spiritually stagnant. How quickly do you respond to the conviction of the Holy Spirit?

### II. Baby Believers fail to Disciple. (5:12-13)

#### A. They are not influential.

The author is telling the readers that by this time "you ought" to be "teachers."

#### B. They are not self-fed.

Baby believers need someone to teach them again. The author continues his reprimand by saying that they need "milk" not "solid food."

### III. Baby Believers fail to Discern. (5:14)

#### A. They are unskilled in the Word of God.

### B. They are blind to sin.

They can't tell the difference between good and evil.

**Baby believers fail to progress, You need to grow up! You must build upon the foundation of Christ.** How do you do that? How do you progress spiritually? How do you move from milk to the meat of God's Word?

### IV. Baby Believers must not fail to Build on the Basics. (6:1-3)

#### B. They must move past outward repentance.

So often the Jewish person would only turn to God by their outward actions. They would fulfill the letter of the law to prove that they were turning back to God. Christ's work on the cross saves from "dead works."

#### D. They must move past traditions.

In the OT, a person would lay his hands on his sacrifice to signify that it was a substitute for his sin. They had to make these sacrifices all the time. They did the same thing over and over again, just because they knew they were supposed to. This was supposed to point to Christ. The NT calls us to build on tradition by going deeper than actions. We are called to trust Christ as our one time substitute on the cross.

#### F. They must move past head-knowledge.

The Pharisees believed in the resurrection of the dead, but they did not accept Christ's resurrection. They said they had a belief in the resurrection, but they refused to accept it. In the NT, we are called to trust in Christ's resurrection as our only hope. His resurrection was victory over its sin and consequences. These people had a head knowledge, but struggled to believe.

There may be some of you that show some of the same characteristics of the baby believer that we have looked at this morning. You may fail to listen, you may fail to disciple, and you may fail to discern good from evil. Are you stuck there for ever? Are you doomed to be a spiritual baby forever? No. **Baby believers fail to progress, You need to grow up! You must build upon the foundation of Christ.** You need to move past looking good on the outside and being content with a head knowledge of spiritual things. Christ changes your heart. Allow Him to do that this morning.