

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Hebrews Bible Study — Hebrews 6:7-10 Lesson #13

****INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the entire section of Scripture in Hebrews before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word. Most Scriptures used are from the New King James Version.

7-8 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; but **if it bears THORNS and BRIARS, it is REJECTED and near to being cursed, whose end is to be BURNED.**

•**Acts 13:44-46** “And the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to _____ the _____ of _____. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with _____; and contradicting and blaspheming, they _____ the things _____ by _____. Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, ‘It was necessary that the word of God should be _____ to you _____; but since you _____ it, and judge yourselves _____ of _____, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.’”

Definition: “If it bears THORNS and BRIARS, it is REJECTED” – This is similar to the Parable of the Sower found in Matt. 13:3-23, Mark 4:2-20, and Luke 8:4-15. “But the ones that fell on the **good ground** are those who, **having heard the word with a noble and good heart**, keep it and bear fruit with patience” (Luke 8:15). **The Bible compares our hearts to either good or bad ground (soil), in which the seed of God’s word will be planted (sowed).** Here in Hebrews, it is talking about when the gospel is preached to the unsaved, and how **the word of God will bring forth FRUIT in some lives and not in others.** This parable also has a lesson for us as Christians. I believe the Bible teaches that **WE are responsible for the CONDITION of our own hearts**, or “ground” in which the word of God is planted as we grow and mature in our Christian walk.

•**Luke 8:5-8 & 12-15** “A sower went out to _____ his _____. And as he sowed, some _____ by the _____; and it was _____ down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on _____ soil; and as soon as it sprang up, it _____ away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among _____, and the _____ sprang up with it and _____ it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold....” (Verses 12-15) “Now the parable is this: The _____ is the _____ of _____. Those by the _____ are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the _____ out of their _____, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the _____ soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have _____ root, who believe for a _____ and in _____ of _____ (testing) _____. And the ones that fell among _____ are those who, when they have heard, go out and are _____ with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the _____ ground are those who, having heard the word with a _____ and _____, keep it and bear fruit with patience.”

Definition: “Being cursed, whose end is to be BURNED” – Again, this is like one of Jesus’ parables, and we should never try to over-think a parable. A parable is meant to only teach ONE BASIC lesson, and **in this case, it is still talking about literal GROUND (earth, soil, dirt) that has sprouted thorns and weeds instead of a good crop.** Before people had all the fertilizers and modern techniques of farming today, if a piece of ground did not grow good crops, it would be BURNED and left to lie fallow for a year or two, and then it might finally grow good crops. Some groups try to make Hebrews 6:4-8 mean that a person can be saved and then lose their salvation and become unsaved. That is NOT what this is

saying. The ONE basic lesson here is that **the gospel seed, the word of God, can fall on bad ground (an unreceptive heart) and that person will NEVER even get saved.**

9-10 But, beloved, **we are confident of BETTER THINGS concerning YOU, yes, THINGS that ACCOMPANY SALVATION**, though we speak in this manner. 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.**

• **Hebrews 7:19** "For the _____ made nothing perfect; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a _____ hope, through which we draw _____ to God."

• **II Corinthians 8:1-4** "Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the _____ of _____ bestowed on the _____ of _____: that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their _____ and their deep poverty abounded in the _____ of their _____. For I bear witness that according to their _____, yes and _____ their _____, they were freely willing, imploring us that we would _____ the _____ and the _____ of the _____ to the _____."

• **II Corinthians 9:1 & 5** "Now concerning the _____ to the _____, it is superfluous for me to write to you." (Verse 5) "Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the _____ to go to you ahead of time, and _____ your bountiful (generous) _____ beforehand, which you had previously _____, that it may be ready as a matter of _____ and not as a grudging obligation."

• **II Corinthians 9:7& 12** "So let each one give as he purposes in his _____, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God _____ a cheerful _____." (Verse 12) "For the administration of this service not only _____ the _____ of the _____, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God."

Definition: "BETTER THINGS concerning YOU... THINGS that ACCOMPANY SALVATION" –

When Jesus paid for our sins on the cross, **He established the New Covenant in His own blood**, and the New Covenant supercedes the Old Covenant (the Old Testament law of Moses), so this is part of what the "better things" means. Also, after talking about FALSE believers in the last few verses, those who turn their backs on Jesus, these verses are talking about TRUE believers and the SIGNS of a true believer.

That is another type of what the "**BETTER THINGS**" are; they are the "**THINGS that ACCOMPANY SALVATION**", or in other words, the **SIGNS of a true Christian.**

• **Luke 22:20** "Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup is the _____ in My _____, which is shed for you.'"

• **Ephesians 2:12-13** "That at that time, you were _____ Christ, being _____ from the commonwealth (blessings) of Israel, and _____ from the _____ of _____, having no hope, and _____ God in this world."

• **Matthew 3:7-8** "But when he (John the Baptist) saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'Brood of vipers! Who has warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Therefore bear _____ worthy of _____.'"

• **Hebrews 11:39-40** "And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something _____ for us, that they should _____ be made perfect _____ from _____."

• **Hebrews 8:6** "But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a _____ covenant, which was established on _____ promises."

Definition: "God is NOT UNJUST to FORGET your WORK and LABOR of LOVE" – God sees

everything we do for Him, and if we do it with the right motives and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we will receive rewards in heaven. In Revelation 14:12-13 where Jesus says, "Their works follow them" it means that the GOOD WORKS we do for the Lord are written down in heaven and we will receive our rewards when we get there.

• **Revelation 14:12-13** "Here is the patience of the _____; here are those who _____ the _____ of God and the _____ of _____. Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, 'Write: "_____ are the _____ who _____ in the _____ from now on."' 'Yes', says the Spirit, 'that they may rest from their _____, and their _____ follow them.'"

• **I Corinthians 3:5-8** "I planted, Apollos watered, but _____ gave the increase (caused the growth). So then neither _____ who plants is anything, nor _____ who waters, but God who gives the increase. Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and _____ one will _____ his own _____ according to his own _____."

• **I Thessalonians 1:2-3** "We give _____ to _____ always for you all, making mention of you in our _____, remembering without ceasing your _____ of _____, _____ of _____, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father."

Definition: "You have MINISTERED to the SAINTS, and do minister" – To "minister" in this context means to give assistance, or do service to someone, in this case the SAINTS, locally and in other cities where they were in need. In the Bible, the word "saint" applies to ALL believers in Jesus, and literally means "one who is SET APART for God" ("Saints" - also translated "Holy ones") - God wants us to be SET APART for His use, and SEPARATED from sin. As Christians, we have a responsibility to "do good" to people of all ways of life, but God's word does give the PRIORITY to our "ministering to the poor SAINTS" (the church, or "household of faith"). Our primary command is to love the "brethren" (also a word meaning "Christians") and help to supply the needs of those who are suffering and unable to work. In Bible times, widows and orphans were especially in need of food, clothing and other financial help, as there were no social or government welfare agencies to help. In the Bible, able-bodied people are commanded to find some kind of work, and not to be a burden on the church.

• **Ephesians 1:1** "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the _____ which are at Ephesus, and to the _____ in Christ _____:"

• **Romans 15:25-26** "But now I am going to _____ to _____ to the _____. For it pleased those in Macedonia and Achaia to _____ a certain _____ for the _____ among the _____ who are in Jerusalem."

• **James 2:14-17** "What does it profit, my _____, if someone _____ he has _____ but does not have _____? Can faith save him? If a _____ or _____ is naked and destitute of daily _____, and one of you says to them, 'Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,' but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

• **Galatians 2:10** "They desired only that we should _____ the _____, the very thing which I also was _____ to _____."

• **Acts 11:28-30** "Then one of them named Agabus, stood up and showed by the _____ that there was going to be a great _____ (lack of food) throughout all the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the _____, each according to his ability, determined to send _____ to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and _____ it to the _____ by the hands of _____ and _____."

• **I Corinthians 16:1-3** "Now concerning the _____ for the _____, as I have given _____ to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: on the first day

of the week let each one of you _____ something _____, storing up as he may _____, that there be no collections when I come.”

• **I Timothy 6:17-19** “Command those who are _____ in this present world not to be haughty (proud), not to _____ in uncertain _____ but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do _____, that they be rich in good works, ready to _____, willing to _____, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.”

• **Titus 3:14** “And let our people also _____ to _____ i good _____ to meet urgent _____, that they may _____ be unfruitful.”

• **Galatians 6:10** “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do _____ to _____, _____ to those who are of the _____ of _____.”

Definition: “ESPECIALLY to those who are of the HOUSEHOLD of FAITH” – The church, or “household of the faith”, which is made up of individual Believers, is to provide for their pastors and teaching elders, and for older widows who have no family to care for them. Today, in larger church bodies, where there is a food pantry or other assistance program set up, it is usually the deacons that administer those programs. **The only “welfare program” of the early church** was to widows over the age of sixty, who had no family to provide for them, and for very young children who were orphans. **The office of “deacon” in the Bible is NOT a teaching office, but merely of service.** The word “deacon” means servant. Deacons were first chosen in the early church **for the purpose of serving FOOD to the widows** in the church (Acts 6:1-6). The original deacons were men, and still are in some cultures, because men are the ones who usually have authority over women in society. However, in our modern Western society, where women and men compete for the same jobs in the secular world, it is not so out of place for a woman to have some authority. This does not mean that the church should pattern itself after the world, but merely that **where the Bible does NOT specifically forbid women to be deacons**, but just happens to mention men most often, it could be because of the way women were viewed in that time and place. So, the phrase “husbands of one wife” seems to mean men only, but the phrase “likewise their wives” in I Tim. 3:11 **could also be translated “likewise women deacons” or “likewise deaconesses”** - the word translated “wife” actually means “woman” and the word “their” is in Italics, which means it is not in the original Greek. What should you do if you are a woman and you’re in a church or denomination that does not believe in having women deacons? The Lord sees your works and deeds, so **if you are doing the work of a deacon, but without the title**, leave it in God’s hands, and He will reward you.

• **Acts 6:2-3** “Then the _____ summoned the multitude of the _____ and said, ‘It is not desirable that we should _____ the _____ of _____ and _____ tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you _____ men of _____, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may _____ over this _____.’”

• **Romans 16:1** “I commend unto you _____ our _____, who is a servant (deacon) of the _____ which is at Cenchea.”

• **Acts 9:36 & 39** “At Joppa there was a certain _____ named _____, which is translated Dorcas. This _____ was _____ of _____ and _____ deeds which she did.” (Verse 39) “Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him to the upper room. And _____ the _____ stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and _____ which Dorcas had made while she was with them.”