

Heb 5:1-4

1 For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. 2 He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. 3 Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. 4 And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was.

Heb 5:5-6

5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him:

"You are My Son,  
Today I have begotten You."

6 As He also says in another place:

"You are a priest forever  
According to the order of Melchizedek";

Heb 5:7-8

7 who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, 8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

Heb 5:9-11

9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, (to obey Him is to put our trust and faith in Him) 10 called by God as High Priest "according to the order of Melchizedek," 11 of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. (to have lard in the ears).

**Jesus became the author of our salvation.**

**Many people are oblivious to** the spiritual warfare taking place out there.

**The author opens verse 9 by speaking of Christ having been made perfect.**

- This does not imply that He was imperfect
- and then was made perfect.

**He was already sinless and morally perfect, Heb 4:15.**

Being perfected actually mean to be made complete.

If our expectation is that we will be perfect,

- then we will be disappointed

- because only Jesus lived a perfect sinless life.

**Fortunately for all believers in Christ,**

- our flaws,
- our imperfections,
- our sin is all covered with Christ's perfection.

2 Cor 5:21

21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

**When God sees us, He sees Jesus covering us with His shed blood on Calvary.**

**Not only is He the perfect High Priest,**

- He's our eternal salvation.

Acts 4:12

12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Jn 14:6 I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

**Jesus was speaking to His disciples just before His crucifixion**

- and He'd just finished telling the disciples
- that He was going, He was leaving
- to prepare a place for them.

And He told them they knew the way He was going.

John 14:5

5 **Thomas said to Him,** "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?"

**That's when Jesus said to them:**

I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

He was telling them, I am the only way to get there.

**He's that bridge we talked about last week.**

He's the truth. He's the one that the entirety of scriptures talk about.

**He's the life.** John 1:4 it reads,

In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

**Jesus provides the way so that any and all who believe**

- will have everlasting life, Jn 3:16.

Heb 5:9-11

9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, (to obey Him is to put our trust and faith in Him) 10 called by God as High Priest "according to the order of Melchizedek," 11 of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. (to have lard in the ears).

**The author has much to say about this person Melchizedek**

- but it's as if he's saying,

**I'm not going to address this now**

- because you have become dull of hearing.

To become dull of hearing carries the idea

- of stuffing lard in the ears.

**In the very next chapter, the writer warns the Hebrew believers**

- not to become sluggish
- which comes from the word dull.

**Earlier in Hebrew 2, the first 4 verses,**

- the writer warned the believers
- that they've started down a backwards journey
- by drifting from the word and then doubting the word.

By now they've progressed to the point of becoming dull of hearing.

Heb 2:1

2 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.

Heb 5:12-14

12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

**The author here is telling the Hebrew believers**

- that they ought to be teachers by now.
- they should at least be in a position
- where they could share the basics of Christianity

Every believer should be able to teach the ABC's of Christianity.

**I think the author was saying to the Hebrew believers,**

- “hey, I can’t speak to you about Melchizedek
- yet since you’re still feeding on milk.”

God rewards faithfulness.

1 Cor 3:12-15

12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

In Matt 25 we have the parable of the 10 talents. In the parable the Lord said to one of the servants,

Matt 25:23

23 His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

**Don't beat yourself up if you're still on milk.**

- But let that be a motivator for you to say,
- “You know what, I need to start diving into the word.”

Heb 5:13-14

13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses (our spiritual senses) exercised to discern both good and evil.

**In looking at verse 14, the author is using the analogy of our physical senses**

- but is alluding to our spiritual senses.

We realize that we are living in a spiritual world.

**When the author speaks of our senses being exercised,**

- he's using the Greek word “gumnázœ”
- which is where we get our English word “gymnasium.”

**We are to exercise our spiritual being**

- so that we can discern both good and evil.

Verse 14 says It's by reason of use that we exercise our senses.

**The author says that we are to exercise**

- so that we can discern both good and evil.

**God's word is the standard of truth.**

Ps 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet  
And a light to my path.

**Jesus said in the book of John:**

John 16:13

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

**Most people out in the community**

- do not realize there is spiritual warfare taking place out there.

**Paul said in Ephesians that** we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

**We can't see those rulers of darkness thru our eyes,**

- not thru our natural eyes.

**The bible speaks about our spiritual senses.**

- One of those senses is taste.

**David said in:**

Ps 34:8

8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good;  
Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

**He was saying we should experience God's goodness.**

- You don't read a recipe in a book and say,
- "oh, that tastes good!"

**Then David says the Lord is good.**

The bible also speaks about a spiritual sense of hearing.

**To each of the 7 churches mentioned in Revelation Jesus said,**

- "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

**He wasn't speaking of auditory hearing,**

- but He was speaking of spiritual hearing.

**When Jesus said to the churches, “let him hear”**

- He was calling the churches to listen carefully,
- and to take His word seriously
- by applying His word in our life.

Jesus also said to the 7 churches. “To him who overcomes.”

His message wasn’t only for the churches then,

- but for all future churches, or individuals if you will.

**The Psalmist appeals to the spiritual eyes in Psa 119:18.**

Ps 119:18

18 Open my eyes, that I may see  
Wondrous things from Your law.

Some people refuse to see and to hear God’s calling because they refuse to acknowledge they are in a fallen state.

**The calling of God is for everyone.**

Whether or not people hear that call depends on the state of their ears.

See, many are called but few are chosen according to Matt 22.

Unfortunately, sin hardens the heart and dulls the spiritual ears.

For example:

**God called Ezekiel to be a prophet to the exiles in Babylon.**

- Many of them hoped Jerusalem would not fall, despite the many warnings.

**They didn’t recognize God’s truth because they were stubborn.**

- They had the information they needed,
- but they refused to listen.

Ezek 12:2

2 "Son of man, you dwell in the midst of a rebellious house, which has eyes to see but does not see, and ears to hear but does not hear; for they are a rebellious house.

**Their hearts became calloused,**

- and their minds become seared
- to the point of rebellion.

As we mature in the word of God,

- as we learn His word and spend time in prayer
- and draw near to our Savior,
- then we can discern good from evil.

**Ps 34:8**

8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good;  
Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

We learn to trust God by tasting His word.

**Ps 119:103**

103 How sweet are Your words to my taste,  
Sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**When Jeremiah was wrestling with deep discouragement,**

- he was feeling isolated and persecuted
- and Lord called him to remain steadfast.

**Then Jeremiah found comfort in God's word:**

**Jer 15:16**

16 Your words were found, and I ate them,  
And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart;  
For I am called by Your name,  
O Lord God of hosts.

Life is not always easy, but we can always take comfort in God's word!

**When we exercise God's word in our life**

- our spiritual senses become sharp.

In the book of Matthew 13, Jesus was asked why He spoke in parables.

**Matt 13:11**

11 **He answered and said to them,** "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. (speaking of the crowd present)

**Then Jesus quoted from Isa 6:9-10**

**Matt 13:13-16**

13 Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. 14 And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says:

'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand,  
And seeing you will see and not perceive;

15 For the hearts of this people have grown dull.  
Their ears are hard of hearing,  
And their eyes they have closed,  
Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears,  
Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn,  
So that I should heal them.'

16 But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear;

Heb 5:13-14

13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness,  
for he is a babe. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those  
who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.