

# Beyond Repentance

Pastor Anthony J. Shetley, Sunday, July 19, 2025

## Read: Hebrews 5:8–6:3

- Understanding the priestly order of the Christ as being like that of Melchizedek.
  - it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing

*“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, of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. And this we will do, if God permits.”* (Hebrews 6:1–3)

- “let us press on to maturity” / perfection / grown up and useable in the work of God’s kingdom. Able to be teachers – able to take strong meat – spiritual senses trained for discernment.
- PRESS ON / GO ON - Greek: *phero* > to be borne along as a ship driven by a wind. Here the Spirit is the power that moves believers forward.

## The Fulness of Christ.

*“Therefore, leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity.”*

Paul’s prayers for the Ephesian church and all churches.

*(Ephesians 1:15–19) “For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints, do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might.”*

*(Ephesians 3:14–19) “For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.”*

Jesus speaks of what has been “granted” to those in the kingdom.

*Jesus answered them, “To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted.”* (Matthew 13:11)

## The Riches of Christ

*“I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”* (Jesus - John 10:10)

*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,”* (Paul - Ephesians 1:3)

Spiritual blessings belong to the eternal age. We are given a “taste” of those things now!

## The Sacred Church

(Ephesians 4:11–13) *And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.*

Evangelist – Many are called to repentance

Teachers – Few are chosen (only the chosen receive revelation as God permits and grants).

Pastors – Come to the fulness of the stature of Christ.

- They watch for your souls
- They feed the sheep
- Equip the saints > It is the equipment of all God's people for service. "To prepare" (katartismos) is "to put right." In surgery katartismos is applied to the setting of a broken bone. In the NT the verb katartizō is used for the mending of nets (Matt 4:21) and the restoration of the one who has trespassed (Gal 6:1).

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*The Abundant Life of Christ is experienced and lived through service unto God.*

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- We are a royal priesthood
- We are in the body of Christ

## The Vine and the Branches

**Read: John 15:1–11**

Conclusion:

*"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it." (Mark 8:35)*

*"Therefore, if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory." (Colossians 3:1–4)*