

BEYOND FIRST FOUNDATIONS

Heb. 5:12 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.** 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.** **HEBREWS. 6:1** Therefore, leaving the discussion of the **elementary principles of Christ**, let us go on to **perfection** (**NLT- Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding**), not laying again the foundation of **repentance from dead works** and of **faith toward God**, ² of the **doctrine of baptisms**, of **laying on of hands**, of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment.** ³ And this we will do if God permits.

I. THE FIRST FOUNDATIONS - ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES OF CHRIST

A. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES

1. **What does elementary mean? FIRST, BASIC, FUNDAMENTAL, RUDIMENTARY.** Things at the very root of a system of teaching.
 - **Rudimentary** signifies the most basic facts or principles, **often implying something is incomplete or primitive compared to a more advanced form.** (LIKE ARITHMETIC TO CALCULUS) IT **BUILDS ON WHAT WE ALREADY KNOW- NOT ABANDONS IT!**
2. **MILK VS. SOLID FOOD - Milk is the bare minimum necessary to sustain life. It is the First Source of nutrition. Growth and advancement comes from deeper truths called solid food.**
3. **A PRINCIPLE IS A TRUTH THAT ALWAYS WORKS THE SAME WAY** Things we know that are foundational to knowing Christ never change!
 - **OUR TROUBLE IS THAT WE TAKE THE MOST BASIC OF TRUTHS, AND INSTEAD OF MAKING THEM THE BEGINNING WE MAKE THEM THE END. THESE TRUTHS ARE MEANT TO BE AN ENTRY-WAY TO DEEPER TRUTHS.**

1 Peter 2:2 NLT Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that

you will **grow into a full experience of salvation**. Cry out for this nourishment, ³ now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

II. REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS - Heb. 6:1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection (MATURE UNDERSTANDING), not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works

- **OUR FAITH HAS ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT LIFE AND DEATH!**

John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for **without Me you can do nothing**.

John 6:55 For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. ⁵⁶ He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna (OLD BREAD), and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever."

John 6:63 **It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing.** The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.

- A. **BIBLICAL REPENTANCE - Metanoia - Change the way you think!**

Mark 1:14 Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the **gospel of the kingdom of God**, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

- B. **DEAD WORKS ARE ANYTHING INITIATED FROM OUR FLESH AND APART FROM THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST**

1. **Our own Good Ideas will result in a dead work (God help me do it)**

Gen. 17:18 And Abraham said to God, "Oh, that **Ishmael might live** before You!"

- **WHAT BEGAN IN THE FLESH CAN NEVER FINISH IN THE SPIRIT**

2. **Whatever is Powered by the Flesh is a Dead Work**

- **A Dead Work does not Originate out of our Intimacy with Christ**
- **Whatever has No Spiritual Life in it is a Dead Work**
- **Whatever does not Promote Spiritual Life is a Dead Work**

Gen. 17:19 Then God said: “No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; **I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him.** ²⁰ And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. ²¹ **But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year.**” ²² Then He finished talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

3. UNTIL OUR MINDS ARE RENEWED THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT WE CAN ONLY OPERATE FROM THE FLESH

ROMANS 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. ⁸ So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

C. THE HOLY SPIRIT RELEASES LIFE IN US and THROUGH US

- **WE DIE TO LIVE**

GAL. 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but **Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.**

- **HIS RESURRECTION RELEASES NEW LIFE TO US**

ROMANS 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, **even so we also should walk in newness of life.**

- **THINKING WITH FLESHLY VALUES LEADS TO DEAD WORKS**

Romans 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the

Spirit. ⁶ *For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

- **BEYOND SALVATION, FATHER'S GOAL FOR US IS LIFE**
JOHN 10:10 NLT *The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.*

III. GROW PAST FIRST FOUNDATIONS - Jn 6 - A peek behind the curtain

John 6:60 *Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is a hard saying; who can understand it?"* **61** *When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, "Does this offend you?"* **62** *What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before?* **63** *It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.*

John 6:66 *From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.* **67** *Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?"* **68** *But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."* **69** *Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*

- **After repentance from dead works, what does it look like to originate all activity out of our spiritual connection to Christ?**
- **DO WE HAVE THE COURAGE TO PRESS PAST FIRST FOUNDATIONS TO A MORE MATURE REVELATION OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST revealed through us?**

A. HOW TO RELEASE LIFE WHEREVER YOU GO

1. **SPEND TIME ENJOYING GOD'S PRESENCE**
2. **ASK GOD TO FILL YOU WITH HIS CHARACTER AND POWER**
3. **WHEN HOLY SPIRIT NUDGES YOU, ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU SHOULD SAY OR DO**
4. **PRAY, DIALOG AND LISTEN INSIDE YOUR HEAD OFTEN**
5. **PAY ATTENTION TO SIGNS** (*They will tell you where to go*)
6. **ALWAYS ASK GOD TO BE PART OF YOUR DAY**
7. **BE WILLING TO TRY THINGS YOU HAVE NEVER DONE BEFORE**