

UNDERSTANDING HEBREWS 6:6

A Study by Franklin

Hebrews 6:1-8 Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, **let us press on to MATURITY** (this is the issue), not laying again a foundation of **repentance** from dead works and of faith toward God, (2) of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. (3) And this we will do, **if God permits**. (4) For in the case of those who have once **been enlightened** and **have tasted** of the heavenly gift and **have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit**, (5) and **have tasted the good word of God** and the powers of the age to come, (6) **and then have fallen away, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO RENEW THEM AGAIN TO REPENTANCE, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame**. (7) For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and brings forth vegetation **useful** to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God; (8) but **if** it yields thorns and thistles, it is **worthless** and **close** to being cursed, and it ends up being burned.

- Many think that this verse is saying that a Believer can lose their Salvation. This is Very Concerning and **NOT** what the verse says. This verse must be correctly understood. Therefore this study.

For a correct interpretation it is **always important to study the context**:

Hebrews 5:12-14 For though by this time (1) **you ought to be teachers**, (2) **you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God**, and (3) **you have come to need milk** and not solid food.

1. They have been believers a long time and should be teaching others.
2. They do not know and need to be taught the basic doctrines.
3. **milk** is for babies to Grow in size, strength, and knowledge.
4. The issue the author is concerned about is **MATURITY** – growing from children to **adults**. An able to teach others – discipleship.

(13) For everyone who partakes **only of milk** is not accustomed to the **word of righteousness**, for he is an **infant** (literally – not of full age).

- Compare: Galatians 4:1-2 Now I say, as long as the **heir** is a **child**, he does not differ at all from a slave although **he is owner** of all, (2) but he is under guardians and tutors **until the date set by the father**. Then he is allowed the privileges of a son.

- He is speaking of the maturing process when a child learns, obeys and desires to do the will of his Father, and becomes responsible and mature. The Jewish people celebrate this with their Bar Mitzvah.
- Our example is Jesus: Hebrews 5:8 **Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. Suffering** has its purpose – to bring us to **maturity** through trust and obedience
See James 1:2-4
- The Children of Israel, coming out of Egypt, **never made this transition of obeying their FATHER, becoming sons**, maturing, and therefore **did not enter** their inheritance, the Promised Land.

(14) But **solid food** is for the **mature**, who because of practice have their senses **trained** (training takes work & study) **to discern good and evil.**

- Babies begin on milk but for full size, strength & knowledge they need **solid food**, which comes by **study** and **experience** over time. **Mature** speaks of being a **son** or **daughter** and not a child.
- **discern good and evil** Read Isaiah 5:20 and 2 Timothy 2:15

Hebrews 6:1 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

- The question **is not** going to heaven but **Growing Up! Maturity! Leaving dead works, Legalism and debates over faith.**
- Many Believers do not fully know or understand the Very Important Foundational Truths and therefore cannot digest the deeper Truths.

Hebrews 6:3 And this we will do, **if God permits.**

- We will **press on to maturity** (sonship) **if** our FATHER **allows** as we saw in Galatians 4:1-2 . . . **until the date set by the father** when He sees that we have the Basic foundational Truths laid down securely.

Hebrews 6:4 For in the case of those who have once been **enlightened** and have **tasted** of the heavenly gift and have been made **partakers** of the Holy Spirit,

- **once been enlightened** meaning the LORD has given them revelation of who HE is. Just as He opened the eyes of the two on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:1-35) and Peter (Matthew 16:17).
- Writing to the **believers** at Ephesus Paul said: 1:18 **I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know . . .** Enlightenment, or revelation, comes from the LORD and is required to know Him. Those of Hebrews 6:4 had been enlightened.
- Hebrews 10:32 **But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings**

They suffered as all Believers because they left their old ways, and no longer lived like everyone else. (John 15:18-19; 17:14,16; 2Tim.3:12; 1Pet.4:4)

- **tasted the heavenly gift** The Old Testament example is the LORD's provision -> manna in the wilderness (Exodus 16).
- And as Paul said in 1 Corinthians 10:3-4 **and all ate the same spiritual food; (4) and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and The Rock was Christ.**
- **made partakers of the Holy Spirit** Believers alone become recipients of the Holy Spirit "in them." 1Cor.6:19 **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God ONLY BELIEVERS HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT "IN THEM."**

Hebrews 6:5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,

- **tasted the good word of God:** "**tasted**" figuratively means to experience. "**Word**" in the Greek is "reema" referring to the "spoken word." In the Old Testament HE spoke and told His children what HE would provide and then did it - fed them in the wilderness and gave them water from the rock. HIS Word is always good.

Hebrews 1:1-2 **God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, (2) in these last days has spoken TO US by His Son**

John 10:27 **My sheep hear My voice**, and I know them, and they follow Me HE speaks to those that are His.

John 8:43 **Why do you not understand what I am saying? It is because you cannot hear My word.** Those that **are not His** do not "hear" what He speaks.

In reference to the two above verses, His children, His believers, hear and experience the fulfillment of His Words.

- He is writing to those who had experienced the **powers of the age to come** that is HIS Kingdom that is here now with its power for those who believe. **The Kingdom is within you** (Luke 17:21)

And now with this background – here is the controversial verse:

Hebrews 6:6 **and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance,**

- This verse is very difficult to translate from the Greek. It is not clear. But remember: **with God all things are possible** (Matthew 19:26).
- One thing is VERY IMPORTANT: **"renew them again to". . . What?**

NOT Justification! NOT Salvation! BUT TO **REPENTANCE** !

The writer keeps referring to Old Testament examples. It has been said that Hebrews is written to Hebrew believers to teach them not to be Hebrews.

The author is referring to the example of the LORD's **Blood Covenant Redeemed** people whom He saved and brought out of Egypt. They saw miracle after miracle of the LORD's provision and salvation: ten plagues / parting of the sea / cloud by day and fire by night / quail, manna, water from The Rock. But **again** and **again** they **rebelled** and **disobeyed**.

The FINAL DISOBEDIENCE was **refusing to enter the land** HE said HE would give them. The spies were sent into the land (Numbers 13:2, 21). They **tasted** its Goodness, its fruit (23, 27). But when they saw the Giants (31-33) fear finished their faith. They do not believe His Word because of what they see. (14:1-4) and **refuse to obey**, to **fight** and **drive out the enemies living in their land** and making it **"THE KINGDOM OF GOD."**

As the children of Israel were captives in Egypt -> a type of the world -> under Pharaoh a type of the devil -> WE ALSO WERE once IN BONDAGE and, our "promised land" also has "giants from our past in it.

Ephesians 2:1-7 **And you** were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which **you formerly walked** according to the **course of this world**, according to the **prince of the power of the air**, of the **spirit that is now working** in the **"SONS" of disobedience**. **AMONG them** (not "of" them) we too **all formerly lived** in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature (the way we acted) children of wrath, even as the rest. But God, being **rich in mercy**, because of His **GREAT LOVE** with which **He loved us**, even when we were dead in our transgressions, **made us alive** together with Christ by grace you have been saved, and raised us up with Him, and **seated us with Him** in heaven in Christ Jesus

❖ HIS FINISHED WORK ! A Believers Salvation is ASSURED.

And now, **having tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come** (Hebrews 6:5) . . . **we also**, have a **fight** on our hands to **clear out the leftover trespassing Giants** in our "Promised land!" To "cleanse the temple!" To clear out the KINGDOM of GOD within YOU !

- Luke 17:21 **The Kingdom is within you**
- Matthew 11:12 From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and **violent men TAKE IT BY FORCE**.
- 2 Corinthians 10:4-6 The **weapons we fight with** are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have **divine power** to demolish **strongholds**. ⁵We demolish **arguments** and every **pretension** that sets itself up **against the knowledge of God**, and we **take captive every thought** to make it **obedient to Christ**. ⁶And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once **your obedience is complete**. NIV
- Read also: Ephesians 6:10-18 Put on the full armor of God

A **good example** of how to **fight** with the full armor of God on, and defeat the "giants" in our "promised land," the "Kingdom of God that is within us" is the way **David fought and defeated the giant Goliath**. **1Samuel 17**

- First of all from a young man **David Greatly Loved the LORD**. This is seen by the **Psalms he wrote**. He also LOVED GOD's WORD as seen in Psalm 119. We also must **Love the LORD** and **Love His Word**. Read your Bible **every day** to become a **mature** son or daughter.
- **David's faith** and **maturity** is seen in the **declarations** he spoke.
- The giant said: Vs.8 **choose A MAN** and let him come down to me. It takes a **Mature MAN** to defeat a giant. So GROWING UP is VERY IMPORTANT for each of us Vs.10 **I defy the ranks of Israel, give me a man that we may fight together** David's brothers and the men of Saul's army stood in fear of the giant. In other words – **not a mature man among them**.
- Vs.32 David **SAID**, **Let no man's heart fail on account of him; your servant will go and fight** with this Philistine. Vs.33 Then Saul said to David, **"you are not able** to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for **you are a youth** while he has been a warrior from his youth."

A **mature** believer DOES NOT let Negative, Discouraging WORDS DESTROY THEIR FAITH.

Yes David was a youth in age but NOT IN SPIRITUAL MATURITY. He himself was a **"Giant of a Man."**

- Vs.33-37 . . . David **SAID** . . . your servant has killed both the lion and the bear and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them **since he has taunted the armies of the living God**.

David became a MAN while faithfully **Obeying** his father and shepherding his sheep. It was there that David became intimate with The LORD (Psalm 27:4) and learned through **experience, the power of Trusting the LORD's presence** with him to defeat his enemies.

- "Bloom where you are planted" . . . and then you will bear fruit.
- And **David SAID**, The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, **He will deliver me** from the hand of this Philistine.

- Vs.38-39 . . . then Saul clothed David with his garments . . . and his armor . . . So **David said** to Saul, **I cannot go with these**, for I have not tested them. So **David took them off**.

This is an example of: 2 Cor.10:3-6 For though we walk in the flesh, **WE DO NOT WAR ACCORDING TO THE FLESH**, ⁴ for the weapons of our warfare **are not of the flesh**, but **divinely powerful** for the destruction of **fortresses**

- Vs.43-47 **And the Philistine cursed David by his gods**. (Proverb 26:2 a curse without cause does not come.) ⁴⁴And said to David, Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the sky and the beasts of the field. ⁴⁵ Then **David SAID** to the Philistine, You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but **I come to you in the NAME of the LORD of hosts**, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted. ⁴⁶**This day the LORD WILL deliver you up into my hands**, and **I will strike you down** and **remove your head from you**. And **I will** give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, **that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel**, ⁴⁷and **that all this assembly may know that the LORD does not deliver by sword or by spear; for THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S** and **He will** give you into our hands.

David DECLARED or PROPHESIED what was to come, that is -> his DESTINY what was to be, according to THE WILL OF THE LORD which he knew and believed because of his **MATURITY**.

Vs.50 **Thus David prevailed** over the Philistine . . .

You will also prevail when you have an intimate relationship with The LORD and DECLARE His Word.

This is also shown in Revelation 12:9 **And the great dragon** was thrown down, the **serpent** of old who is called the **devil** and **Satan**, who **deceives the whole world**; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. (Isaiah 14:12+; Ezekiel 28:12+)

Verse 11 **And THEY OVERCAME HIM** because of (1) the **BLOOD** of the **LAMB** and (2) because of **the WORD** of their **testimony**, and (3) they **did not love their life** even when faced with death.

THEY OVERCAME HIM because of:

- **BLOOD** of the **LAMB** -> their Eternal Salvation was Secure
 - **the WORD** of their **testimony** – which is DECLARED & SPOKEN for their day-by-day Salvation
 - It is VITALLY IMPORTANT for us to **DECLARE** and **PROPHECY** not only what the LORD HAS DONE for us because of The BLOOD but also what HE has **DONE FOR US** AND what **HE IS GOING TO DO FOR US**.
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Back to our Hebrews study:

Numbers 14:22-23 The LORD says: Surely all the **men** leaders of their families who have seen My glory and My signs which I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness, yet have **put Me to the test these TEN TIMES** and **have not listened to My voice**, (23) **shall by no means see the land** which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who spurned Me see it.

- They refused to obey, **as sons**, what their Father **told** them, but believed what they **saw** with their eyes. Therefore He would **discipline** them and they remained **AS CHILDREN**.
- In situations such as this there may come a time when it is obvious to the LORD, as He sees your heart, that you will **not** listen and obey and He knows your **repentance is not genuine**.
- Many believers **remain children**, testing the Lord, not listening to His voice, not enjoying intimacy with their Father and not enjoying the **blessings** and **privileges** of **sonship** / **Maturity**.

Example: 1Corinthians 3:1-3

Numbers 14:30-33 Surely you shall not come into the land in which I swore to settle you, except Caleb and Joshua. (31) **Your children**, however, whom you said would become a prey **I will bring them in**, and they will know the land which you have **rejected**. (32) But as for you, your corpses will fall in this wilderness. (33) **Your sons** shall be shepherds for forty years in the wilderness, and **they will suffer for your unfaithfulness**, until your corpses lie in the wilderness.

- Many children today suffer because of the unfaithfulness of their fathers. Because their fathers refuse to obey the LORD and drive the giants out of their “promised land.”

They died in the wilderness. **THEY COULD NOT GO BACK TO EGYPT** because **THEY WERE THE LORD'S!** They were His Blood Redeemed children.

Numbers 14:39-45 When Moses spoke these words to all the children of Israel, the people **mourned greatly**. (40) In the morning, however, they rose up early and went up to the ridge of the hill country, saying, "Here we are; **we have indeed sinned**, (they confessed, changed their minds, repented, **but it was too late. The LORD would not accept it) but we will go up** to the place which the LORD has promised. (the LORD said do not go up. They still are not obeying) (41) But Moses said, "Why then are you transgressing the commandment of the LORD, when **it will not succeed?** (42) "Do not go up, or you will be struck down before your enemies, **for the LORD is not among you**. (to give you victory, the Promise) (43) "For the Amalekites and the Canaanites will be there in front of you, and you will fall by the sword, inasmuch as **YOU HAVE TURNED BACK** from following the LORD. (this is the falling away spoken of in Hebrews 6:6) And the LORD will not be with you. (44) But **they went up heedlessly** to the ridge of the hill country; neither the ark of the covenant of the LORD nor Moses left the camp. (45) Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down, and struck them and beat them down.

They fell away from trusting and obeying His Word as to how to conquer and possess their earthly inheritance. And they suffered the consequences – a life in the wilderness. This was after MANY rebellious acts and **GOD DID NOT** accept their REPENTANCE!

Continued disobedience results in severe discipline.

Proverb 13:24 He who loves his son disciplines him diligently.

Hebrews 12:6 For those whom the Lord loves HE disciplines

Hebrews 12:10 HE disciplines us for our good

If no discipline, the next generation, their children, would have continued living as their fathers. But through the hardship of forty years in the wilderness their children **LEARNED** that **OBEDIENCE** made life much better and they later entered their Promised Land and enjoyed the blessings and provision thereof as sons. Suffering has its purpose. See James 1:2-4

❖ The Promised Land is a type of the Kingdom of God.

This is a warning to us. 1 Corinthians 10:6-13 Now **these things happened as EXAMPLES FOR US**, so that **we would not** crave evil things as they also craved. (7) Do not be idolaters . . (8) Nor act immorally. . (9) Nor try the Lord, . . (10) Nor grumble, as some of them did, . . (11) Now these things happened to them **as an example**, and they **were written for our instruction**, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

When living a life of continued disobedience, not obeying His Word, there may come a time when He will no longer grant you repentance. And you remain as a child and not enjoy the full benefits and privileges of one He can trust as mature, in His Kingdom here on earth. The decision is yours!

King Saul is another example, time & time again refused to obey

1 Samuel 15:22-25 Samuel said, Has the Lord as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in **OBEYING the voice of the Lord?** Behold, to **OBEY is better than sacrifice** . For **REBELLION** is as sinful as witchcraft, and **STUBBORNNESS** is as iniquity and idolatry. **Because** you have **REJECTED THE WORD of the Lord, HE has also rejected you from being king**. Then Saul said to Samuel, I have sinned; I have indeed transgressed the command of the Lord and your words, because I feared the people and listened to their voice. Now therefore, please pardon my sin . . . But it was too late! The LORD DID NOT accept Saul's repentance. It was probably not genuine. Also: Esau -> Hebrews 12:16-17

❖ Eternal Life? – Yes! By the Blood of His Covenant.

❖ A Blessed life here on earth? – depends on our obedience.

2 Timothy 2:21-26 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these he will be a **vessel for honor, sanctified, useful** to the Master, **prepared** for every good work. Now **flee** from youthful lusts and **pursue righteousness**, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a **pure heart**. But **refuse** foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels. The Lord's **bond-servant** (Ex.21:5-6) must not be

quarrelsome, but be kind to all, **able to teach** (mature), **patient** when wronged, with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, **if PERHAPS GOD MAY GRANT THEM REPENTANCE** leading to the knowledge of the truth, and they **come to their senses** and **escape** from the **snare of the devil**, having been **held captive by him to do his will**.

Hebrews 6:6 since they again **crucify to themselves the Son of God, and put Him to open shame**.

The author is now referring to another Old Testament example that those who he is writing to - Hebrew people - would understand.

The example of Moses: Exodus 17:2-7 Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water that we may drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? **Why do you test the LORD?**" (3) But the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why, now, have you brought us up from Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" (4) So Moses cried out to the LORD, saying, "What shall I do to this people? A little more and they will stone me." (5) Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pass before the people and take in your hand **your staff with which you struck the Nile** and go. (6) "Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb; and **you shall strike the rock**, and water will come out of it that the people may drink." And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. (7) He named the place Massah and Meribah because of the quarrel of the sons of Israel, and because **they tested the LORD**, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not

This is a picture type of the **Crucifixion** of Jesus Christ. Moses' staff was a **rod of judgment** which judged the Egyptians for their sin and now by striking "The Rock," JESUS CHRIST, who took our judgment (Romans 8:2-3), water (a type of the Spirit of life) flowed forth for His people to drink.

1 Corinthians 10:4 and all drank the same **spiritual drink**, for they were drinking from a **spiritual rock** which followed them; and **the rock was Christ**.

John 4:14 whoever drinks of **the water** that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up **to eternal life**.

A short time later while in the wilderness, again no water:
 Numbers 20:2-13 There was **no water** for the congregation, and they assembled themselves **against Moses and Aaron** (see 1Chron.16:22). (3) The people thus contended with Moses and spoke, saying, If only we had perished when our brothers perished before the LORD! (4) Why then have you brought the LORD'S assembly into this wilderness, for us and our beasts **to die** here? (5) Why have you made us come up from Egypt, to bring us in to this **wretched place**? It is not a place of grain or figs or vines or pomegranates, nor is there water to drink. [To mature us the LORD will take us through dry, difficult places. How you respond is critical. See James1:2-4] (6) Then Moses and Aaron came in from the presence of the assembly to the doorway of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to them; (7) and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, (8) Take the rod; and you and your brother Aaron assemble the congregation and **SPEAK to the rock** (rock is a word meaning elevated place) before their eyes, that it may yield its water. You shall thus bring forth water for them out of the rock and let the congregation and their beasts drink. (9) So Moses **took the rod from before the LORD**, just as He had commanded him; (Not Moses' rod, but Aaron's rod (Num. 17:10) a priestly rod for intercession. Not a rod of judgment.) (10) and Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly before the rock. And he said to them, Listen now, you rebels; shall we bring forth water for you out of this rock? (11) Then Moses lifted up his hand and **STRUCK THE ROCK twice with his rod**;

- In anger Moses DISOBEYED and in a type, "**Crucified again the Son of God.**" The ROCK had already been **struck** with the rod of judgment (the cross) for our Forgiveness, Reconciliation and Justification giving Eternal Life. Now, being exalted to an elevated place, all that was, and is, needed for any provision is to **speak** to The ROCK.
- This was to be another very important teaching type but **Moses disobeyed**. However: **water came forth abundantly, and the congregation drank**. The LORD is Merciful and Gracious (Psalm 86:15)
- John 7:37-39 If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. (38) He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water. (39) But this He spoke **of the Spirit**, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

The Result of his disobedience: (12) But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, Because you have **not believed Me, to treat Me as holy** in the sight of the sons of Israel, therefore **you SHALL NOT bring this assembly into the land** which I have given them.

- James 3:1 Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we **will incur a stricter judgment**. ???

Moses pleads with the LORD: Deuteronomy 3:23-27 I also **pleaded with the LORD** at that time, (25) Let me, I pray, cross over and see the fair land that is beyond the Jordan (26) But **the LORD was angry with me** on your account (blame others?) and would not listen to me; and the LORD said to me, **Enough! Speak to Me no more of this matter**.

The LORD does not allow repentance: Numbers 27:12-14 Then the LORD said to Moses, Go up to this mountain of Abarim, and see the land which I have given to the sons of Israel. (13) When you have seen it, you too will be gathered to your people, as Aaron your brother was; (14) for in the wilderness of Zin, during the strife of the congregation, **you rebelled against My command to treat Me as holy before their eyes** at the water of Meribah of Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin.

- We treat the LORD as Holy when we obey His Word.

Did Moses enter the Promised Land? No!

Did Moses go to heaven? YES! Hebrews 3:5 Luke 9:28-31

Therefore we understand that to **"again crucify to themselves the Son of God, and put Him to open shame"** (Hebrews 6:6) for a Believer who has been disobedient - has the meaning of **turning from speaking to the rock** and confessing my sin -> and **turning to** some other sacrifice or work, like saying we must keep the Law to go to Heaven. **This is saying Christ's death on the Cross and HIS shed Blood was not enough.**

When we say that the Death and shed Blood of Jesus Christ was **not sufficient** and something more is necessary like keeping the Law to go to heaven, we are **"striking The Rock again."** It is saying that HIS GRACE is NOT sufficient and that a person must add or do some other work for their salvation. And this **puts Him to open shame** because I am saying that He is not able to perform and provide as He said He would, and that is not **"treating HIM as being holy."**

Should one believe that a **true believer** could **lose their salvation** because of some extreme disobedience and that they must **again** come to the Cross to be “born again” they are in a sense **again crucifying to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame**. All that is necessary for a true believer in such a case is **not** to “strike the Rock again” but to **speak to THE ROCK** in **true repentance** and **confession of their sin** (1 John 1:9).

Should the LORD **not accept the repentance** - which is **extremely unlikely** if you are not a Moses - you **WOULD NOT** lose your eternal salvation. You **would suffer** the consequences of a **wilderness life** here on earth apart from the **full Blessings** and provision of the LORD.

Hebrews 6 **has nothing to do with going to heaven or hell**, but the **believer maturing**, leaving childhood and entering **SONSHIP** and OBEDIENCE which is **The Kingdom of God**.

Psalm 106:32-33

❖ The Kingdom of God is wherever HE is truly KING! Truly LORD !

Luke 6:46-49 **Why do you call Me, Lord, Lord, and DO NOT DO WHAT I SAY?** Everyone who comes to Me and **hears My words** and **obeys**, he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a **foundation** on The **ROCK**; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who has **heard** and has **not obeyed** is like a man who built a house on the sand **without any foundation**; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great.

Read: Matthew 7:21, 24-27 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

Hebrews 6:7-8 For **ground** that drinks the **rain** which often falls on it and **brings forth vegetation useful** to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God; (8) but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is **worthless** and **CLOSE** to being cursed, and it ends up being **burned**.

- Ground = Believer
We are God's field: 1 Corinthians 3:9 **you are God's field**
And: **The one who sows the good seed** is the Son of Man Matt. 13:37
- Seed = Word of God

1 Peter 1:23 you have been born again not of **seed** which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring **Word of God**.

- Rain = Water of Holy Spirit
John 7:38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, From his innermost being will flow rivers of **living water**. This He spoke **of the Spirit**
- Verse 8: **worthless** The Greek word means **disapproved** It is the **Same word** in 1 Corinthians 9:27 translated **disqualified**. I **discipline** my body and bring it into **subjection**, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become **disqualified**.

And the context clearly means: disqualified **from the prize or reward**.

❖ Not abandonment, not rejection but No Longer Useful

2 Timothy 2:21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, **useful** to the Master, prepared for every good work.

We are either **useful** to the LORD or not, according to our **maturity**, our **obedience** to The Truth. As were the Galatian believers.

Galatians 5:4 You who are trying to be justified by law have been **alienated** from Christ; you have **fallen away from grace**. NIV

- The Greek word **alienated** literally means: "**to be rendered entirely idle or useless**" (Strong's #2673). Set aside.
- **fallen away from grace** → Not dependent on Grace alone, but thinking that some other work or sacrifice must be **added** to the finished work of Christ on the Cross and in a sense, this is striking The Rock again - and thus **put Him to open shame**.

Ephesians 2:8 For **by grace** you **have been saved** through faith; and that **not of yourselves, it is the gift of God**

Galatians 5:7 You were running well; who **hindered** you **from obeying** the truth?

This is the issue – hindered, idle, moved away from Grace.

- but if it **yields thorns and thistles** - useless or damaging works of the flesh instead of depending on "The ROCK being struck" (judged for sin) and "speaking to the ROCK" (confession or asking).
- **"close" to being cursed** Not cursed but close to it.
- **it ends up being burned** - ground, rain, thorns, thistles, are all metaphors therefore so is "being burned".

Compare: 1 Corinthians 3:13-15 **each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality** of each man's work. (14) If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a **reward**. (15) If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer **loss**; **BUT HE HIMSELF WILL BE SAVED**, yet so as through fire.

In **Hebrews 6:7** The ground - the believer - is not damaged, but the trash which the ground produces, which is worthless, is removed.

The Lord is working in our lives to bring us to a place of maturity, as SONS and DAUGHTERS and not BOYS and GIRLS.

Our FATHER Loves us and wants us to grow up and inherit all the PROMISES HE has for us.

Hebrews 6:1 **Therefore . . . let us press on to maturity . . . (3) AND THIS WE WILL DO**

It is a matter of FAITH / TRUST / OBEYING & WALKING in the FINISHED WORK OF JESUS CHRIST on the CROSS.

For Eternal Salvation -> Take Up **HIS** Cross. What The Blood of JESUS did **for us**.

Believe in HIM and His Finished Work by HIS death, burial & resurrection. Add **Nothing** else. JESUS CHRIST is Your **SAVIOR**.

John 3:16 **For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.**

Romans 10:9-11 If you **confess** with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and **believe in your heart** that God raised Him from the dead, you **will be saved**; (10) for with **the heart a person believes**, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in **salvation**

For **Daily Salvation** - Take Up **Your Cross**

Death to Self and live for HIM in victory over satan and sin.

JESUS CHRIST is Your **LORD**.

Matthew 10:38 He who does not **take his cross** and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. (39) He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

Luke 9:23 And He was saying to them all, If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must **deny himself**, and **take up his cross daily** and **follow Me**. Luke 6:46 Galatians 2:20 John 12:24

The LORD has provided for us to **freely** enter The **Kingdom of God** through **Faith** that **Believes** and **Obeys**.

Let us Press on to MATURITY, leaving childhood.

I **press on** toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:14

And in Obedience to HIS Word → **drive out all the foreign enemies within you, within His Kingdom.**

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 For the **weapons of our warfare** are not of the flesh, but **divinely powerful** for the **destruction of fortresses**, destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we taking every thought captive to the **obedience of Christ**

The Author of Hebrews goes on to say:

Hebrews 6:9-12

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, **you have** ministered to the saints. And we desire that **each one of you** show the same **diligence** to the **full assurance** of hope until the end, that **you do not become sluggish**, but **imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises**.

The conclusion: read Chapter 12

James 1:2-4

Consider it all JOY, my brethren, when you encounter various **trials**, knowing that the **testing of your faith produces endurance**. And let endurance have its perfect work, so that you may be **MATURE** and complete, **lacking nothing**.

New Living Translation:

Dear brothers and sisters, when **troubles come** your way, consider it an opportunity for **great JOY**. For you know that when your **faith is tested**, your **endurance** has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for **when your endurance is fully developed**, you will be perfect, **MATURE** and complete, needing nothing.

The trials / problems / suffering that we all have, serve a purpose as The LORD causes all things to work together for good to those who LOVE GOD . . . for **when your endurance is fully developed**, you will be perfect, **MATURE** and complete, needing nothing.

Therefore Consider it all – the good and the bad - all JOY

Hebrews 6:1 Therefore **let us press on to maturity**

. . . (3) **AND THIS WE WILL DO**