**Hebrews: The Supremacy of the Son of God pt. 31**

**November 17, 2024 || Title: The Danger of Being Dull**

**OUTLINE: Introduction:**

* Gathering for church is different than anything else we do throughout the week.
	+ The means of grace are available to us corporately.
* 5:11-6:8 – a solemn warning; 6:9-20 – an encouragement.

**Hebrews 5:11–14**

[11] About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. [12] For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, [13] for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. [14] But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. (ESV)

**Setting up the Warning**:

* What we need for perilous times.
* The Apostle’s Congregation was facing perilous times.
* Immaturity and apathy leaves the Christian in a vulnerable place.
* “About this” – that Jesus is our High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek.
* “Much to say” – emphasizing the importance of what needs to be said, as well as the amount of what needs to be said.
* Receiving and believing Biblical doctrine is what fuels perseverance.
	+ Nothing more relevant that faithful teaching when it comes to living the Christian life.
* “Hard to explain” – not because of his skill or the teaching itself.
	+ But because of the condition of the people.

**The Reason for the Warning:**

* The congregation had become dull of hearing
	+ “Become” implies – a change.
* Dull – sluggish – lazy.
* The opposite of 2 Peter 1:5-7; Hebrews 4:11.

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**The Reason for the Warning:**

* The congregation had become dull of hearing
	+ “Become” implies – a change.
* Dull – sluggish – lazy.
* The opposite of 2 Peter 1:5-7; Hebrews 4:11.
* Very close to unbelief – which is disobedience.
* Not the physical act of hearing – but lack of spiritually hearing was the problem.
* Spiritual laziness and indifference = dull = not hearing the Word.
* Jesus is the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.
	+ Not hearing is a problem, because earlier in the letter we read – “today if you hear His voice, do not harden your heart.” (chapter 4)

**What they Need:**

* To be taught the basic principles of the oracles of God.
* They need milk and not solid food.
* The difference between milk and solid food.
	+ Not the diet but the perspective.
* The problem with seeker driven churches.
	+ Never getting to the meat of the gospel, confusing law and gospel.
* There is a duty, responsibility, and expectation for Christians to grow.
* Does everyone should be teachers mean everyone should be an elder – No.
* There’s no excuse for regression.
* We need to own up to immaturity and repent.
	+ Are we living a life that is conducive to becoming dull of hearing, or maybe we are already dull?

**What are some steps I can take, or things I can change to avoid, by grace, becoming dull of hearing?**

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