

GROW: Build It Right

Dr. John Carmichael

[Heb 6:1-2 NASB95] 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, 2 of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.

- Everybody wants to grow, but not everybody wants to build.
- In the natural, we understand this: You don't build a house without a foundation. You don't start with the roof. You start with what's underneath.
- Yet spiritually, many people want: deep revelation without repentance, power without foundation, growth without structure.
- And the writer of Hebrews says something very strong: "Let us press on to maturity..."
- But then he lists the foundations you must build on.
- Because here's the truth: If the foundation is weak, the growth will not last.

If I truly want to grow in Christ, what must be firmly established in my life first?

Hebrews 6 shows us that spiritual growth is not accidental; it is built on six foundational truths that must be established in every believer.

I. REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

- a. [Act 3:19 NASB95] 19 "Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord;
- b. [2Co 7:10 NASB95] 10 For the sorrow that is according to [the will of] God produces a repentance without regret, [leading] to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.
- c. Repentance is not just feeling bad. It is turning from what is dead to what is alive.
- d. Dead works include: sin, self-effort to earn righteousness, empty religion
- e. Application: Identify anything in your life that is spiritually dead. Turn from it decisively, not gradually. Stop trying to earn what Jesus already finished.
- f. Repentance is not punishment. It is the doorway to life.

II. FAITH TOWARD GOD

- a. [Heb 11:6 NASB95] 6 And without faith it is impossible to please [Him,] for he who comes to God must believe that He is and [that] He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.
- b. [2Co 4:13 NASB95] 13 But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE," we also believe, therefore we also speak,
- c. [Mar 11:22-24 NASB95] 22 And Jesus answered saying to them, "Have faith in God. 23 "Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be [granted] him. 24 "Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be [granted] you.
- d. Faith is not just believing about God. It is trusting in God.
- e. Repentance turns you away from sin. Faith turns you toward God.
- f. Application: Place full confidence in Jesus, not yourself. Speak what you believe. Trust God in real, everyday situations.
- g. Faith is how you access everything God has provided.

III. BAPTISMS

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- a. [Act 2:38 NASB95] 38 Peter [said] to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- b. [Rom 6:4 NASB95] 4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.
- c. [Act 1:4-5 NASB95] 4 Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," [He said,] "you heard of from Me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."
- d. There is a foundation of baptisms: salvation (new birth), water baptism (identification with Christ), Spirit baptism (empowerment).
- e. Water baptism should not be seen as optional but as obedience and identification.
- f. Application: If you have not been water baptized: take that step today. Understand: you are leaving the old life behind. Expect real change.
- g. What happens inwardly must be expressed outwardly.

IV. LAYING ON OF HANDS

- a. [Act 8:17 NASB95] 17 Then they [began] laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.
- b. [2Ti 1:6 NASB95] 6 For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
- c. God uses people as vessels to: impart blessing, release healing, activate gifts
- d. This is a supernatural transfer point.
- e. Application: be open to receiving prayer, don't treat it casually: receive by faith, also be willing to pray for others.
- f. The kingdom is not just taught, it is imparted.

V. RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

- a. [1Co 15:20-22 NASB95] 20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. 21 For since by a man [came] death, by a man also [came] the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.
- b. [Jhn 11:25 NASB95] 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies,
- c. This life is not the end.
- d. Because Jesus rose: we will rise. Death has lost its final authority.
- e. Application: Live with eternal perspective. Do not fear death. Let hope shape how you live now.
- f. The resurrection is not just future. It affects how you live today.

VI. ETERNAL JUDGMENT

- a. [Heb 9:27 NASB95] 27 And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this [comes] judgment,
- b. [2Co 5:10 NASB95] 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.
- c. There is accountability before God.
- d. This is not meant to produce fear, but urgency and alignment.
- e. Application: Live with awareness that your life matters. Make decisions that honor God. Don't delay obedience.

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f. Eternity is real. Live ready.

- **If you don't build your life on the right foundation, you will never grow into what God intended.**
- **If you build your life on these...You will not be shaken. You will not drift. You will grow.**