

Hebrews 6:4-8 – Part I

Can I lose My Salvation?

Hebrews 6:4 (NOTES)

- "those who have once been enlightened" - Had their intellectual eyes opened to the truth of the Gospel, but not their hearts to receive it. To have been enlightened is to have "been shown something." But this does not refer to those who have been born again, who now "know the truth." There is a difference between *seeing* truth (Jesus is God's Son) and *knowing* the gospel (Jesus is my Savior).
- "have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit" - The Holy Spirit reveals truth. Partakers have experienced the revelatory power of the Holy Spirit. But this does not refer to those who have been born again who are "partakers of the divine nature." It is one thing to have the Holy Spirit active in your life, revealing truth, convicting, etc. It is quite another to become born again, to receive the indwelling presence of the "divine nature."
John 16:13, 2Peter 1:2-4, John 3:8, 14:17, 1Corinthians 6:19, Ephesians 1:13, 4:30

Hebrews 6:5 (NOTES)

- "tasted the ... word of God and the powers" - Tasted, not drank/consumed. The Jews at the Exodus heard the Word of God through Moses, and saw the power of God in the 10 plagues, the parting of the Red Sea, manna, etc. But, by their experiences they were not born again. They continually departed from God, even though they had seen God's Word and Power in action. Simon Magus is a good NT example. Neither were the Jews at the Exodus, nor up to Pentecost, nor was Simon Magus born again or indwelt by the Holy Spirit.
Acts 8:9-24

Hebrews 6:6 (NOTES)

- "fallen away" - Those who heard, perhaps even liked what they heard, or even understood what they heard, but rejected it, are those who "have fallen away." Certainly, the Jewish audience of Hebrews is in view here. They have read God's OT Word and heard about God's powerful OT miracles, and yet are unwilling to accept God's OT instructions about the Messiah to come or to recognize and accept Him when He proved Himself with, not just one miracle, but with a powerful, 3-year, miracle ministry. In refusing to acknowledge Jesus as their Messiah, that final and most necessary act for the Jew of saving faith, they have "fallen away."

- "impossible to renew them again to repentance" - The Jews were in a unique position. They had to either accept or reject Jesus as the Christ. Once rejected, the covering they had enjoyed by keeping the OT Law was removed, and they were then re-exposed to damnation - they were under double jeopardy. The reading of this book (Hebrews) brought the Jews to the point of decision. To reject Christ after having been enlightened as to His person and His nature was to place themselves back under damnation of the Law. Their sins returned to them and would carry them to eternal punishment.
Hebrews 10:26-29
- "crucify ... the Son of God and put Him to open shame" - In the eyes of the Jew who rejected Jesus as Messiah, Jesus was properly crucified for the criminal they believed Him to be. His shame (cross) was just in their eyes.
Hebrews 12:2