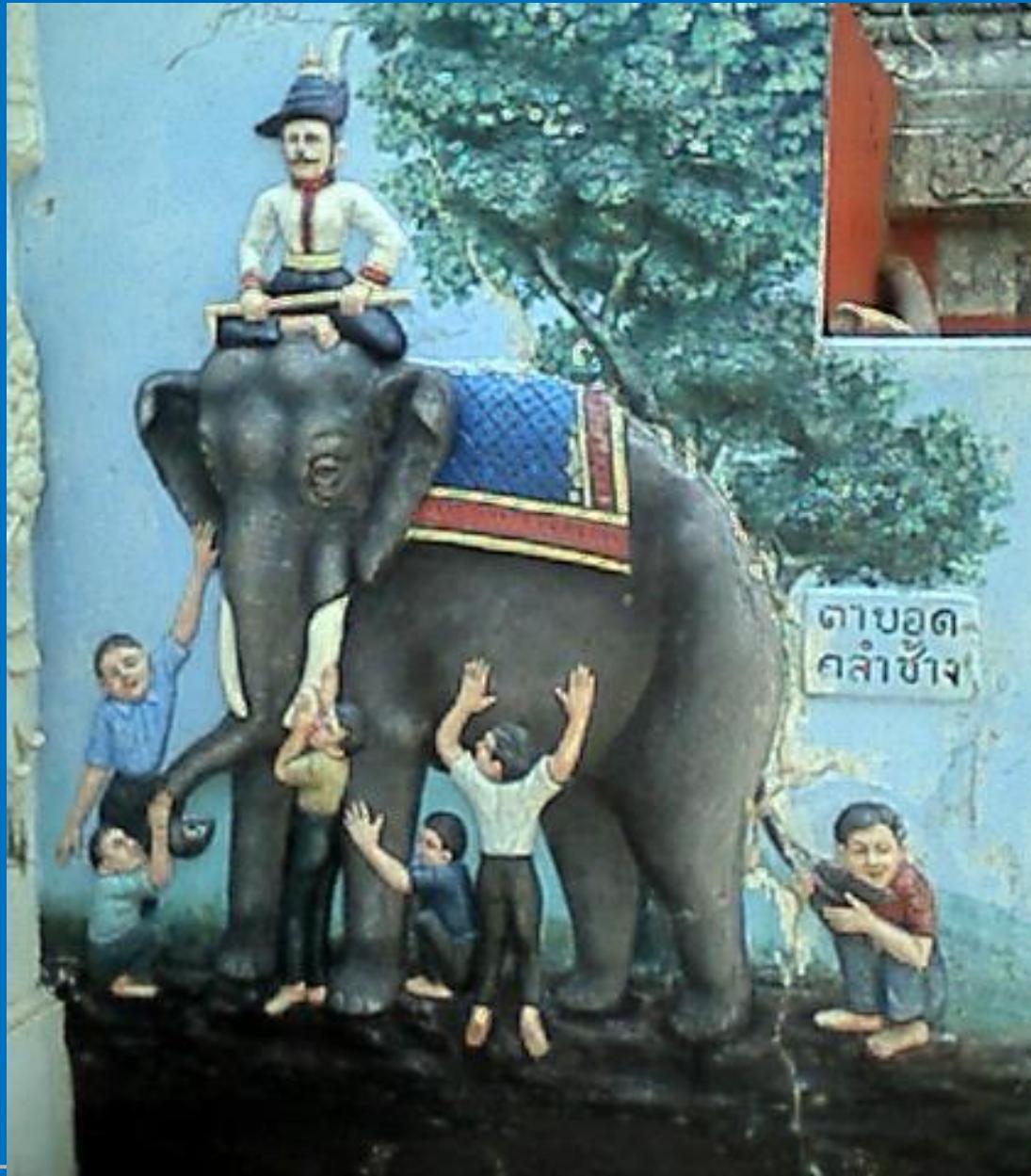


# *The Heart of Hebrews*

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- **CSB Hebrews 6:4-6** <sup>4</sup> For it is impossible to renew to repentance those who were once enlightened, who tasted the heavenly gift, became companions with the Holy Spirit, <sup>5</sup> tasted God's good word and the powers of the coming age, <sup>6</sup> and who have fallen away, because to their own harm they are recrucifying the Son of God and holding Him up to contempt.

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- The Greek language does not indicate an “if” situation anywhere in this sentence.
- ESV / KJV / NIV / NKJ: Heb 6:6 “if they then fall away”
- NET: Heb 6:6 “and then have committed apostasy”
  - Fall away= parapesontas (from parapipto), not apostenai (from aphistemi)

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- 2 Common Interpretations:
  - Christians can lose their salvation, can apostasize.
  - Christians cannot lose their salvation, so this verse refers to professors of salvation rather than possessors of salvation.



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The very heart of the book of Hebrews is a solemn plea to believers not to be satisfied with mere salvation or anything less than the best and the very maximum of fruit and service. We are not to stand still and be merely satisfied with being saved from hell and headed for heaven, but we are to become mature and fruitful in our Christian life.

M.R. De Haan, *Studies in Hebrews*, Radio Bible Class

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The very heart of Hebrews, the key to its right interpretation, is found beginning in chapter 5. **Hebrews 5:12- 6:1** For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of God's revelation. You need milk, not solid food. Now everyone who lives on milk is inexperienced with the message about righteousness, because he is an infant. But solid food is for the mature -- for those whose senses have been trained to distinguish between good and evil. Therefore, leaving the elementary message about the Messiah, let us go on to maturity.

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“The word reward is the key which unlocks the secret of the book of Hebrews. **Hebrews 10:35** “Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.” He says – “ It is not written to half-saved professors who are threatened with being lost after all. Instead it is written to believers who are saved and cannot be lost again, but they can lose their reward.”

“The warning is to believers coming short of God’s best, and becoming subject to the chastening of the Lord, and loss of reward at the Judgment Seat of Christ .”

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**Don't drift into unbelief.  
Hold fast to Jesus by faith.  
Or there will be consequences**

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What does “renew to repentance” mean?

Dr. Gromacki: There is a repentance for a sinning christian, fostered by a godly sorrow, which can restore him to divine blessing and fellowship. But a believer can lose the possibility of that kind of repentance through deliberate disobedience.

# *The Heart of Hebrews*

- **Numbers 14:30** I swear that none of you will enter the land I promised to settle you in, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.
- **Numbers 14:39-45** When Moses reported these words to all the Israelites, the people were overcome with grief. They got up early the next morning and went up the ridge of the hill country, saying, "Let's go to the place the LORD promised, for we were wrong." But Moses responded, "Why are you going against the LORD's command? It won't succeed. Don't go, because the LORD is not among you and you will be defeated by your enemies. The Amalekites and Canaanites are right in front of you, and you will fall by the sword. The LORD won't be with you, since you have turned from following Him." But they dared to go up the ridge of the hill country, even though the ark of the LORD's covenant and Moses did not leave the camp. Then the Amalekites and Canaanites who lived in that part of the hill country came down, attacked them, and routed them as far as Hormah.

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- **Hebrews 6:6** they are crucifying the Son of God for themselves all over again and holding Him up to contempt.
- **Matthew 26:63-66** <sup>63</sup>And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!" <sup>64</sup> Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven." <sup>65</sup> Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, "He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy! <sup>66</sup> "What do you think?" They answered and said, "He is deserving of death."
- The Jews rejected Jesus and crucified Him because they did not believe that He was the Son of God or the Messiah.

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- **Galatians 1:6-7** <sup>6</sup> I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, <sup>7</sup> which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.
- **2 Corinthians 11:4** For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.

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- We are warned!
- Don't be lazy.
- Let God grow us up into maturity.
- Don't let unbelief make us deviate from the right path.
- Or else... we will be at risk of the Lord's discipline
- and ...at risk of losing blessings on earth
- And...at risk of losing rewards in heaven

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2 Peter 1:5-8 add to your faith **virtue**, to virtue **knowledge**, <sup>6</sup> to knowledge self-control, to self-control **perseverance**, to perseverance **godliness**, <sup>7</sup> to godliness **brotherly kindness**, and to brotherly kindness **love**.