

Making sense of Hebrews 6 and 10 (part five of a five part series)

If you are that better brother (or sister), ready to help a fellow Christian living in the backsliding danger zone, your offer of a lifeline can be, and must be, as simple as presenting them with the promise of 1 John 1:9 –

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Bringing spiritual regression to a halt is not complicated. It is simple but not easy. It is as simple as admitting to God that you have done wrong. It is difficult as swallowing your pride in order to make such an admission. But there is no other solution to the problem of spiritual regression. The substitutionary sacrifice for sin by our Savior at the Cross makes it that simple and easy. It not only provides us with eternal salvation from sin, death and hell; but also gives our Lord Jesus Christ the authority to forgive, cleanse and restore us on a daily basis. The difficulty which interferes with such simplicity is always our stubborn and rebellious hearts in refusing to do our part in the process. In other words, **“there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,”** due to our unwillingness to receive its benefit.

So if you want to help, keep it simple. Express your genuine concern for their well-being and then share the promise of 1 John 1:9. Let them know that Jesus is ready, willing and able to reverse the negative trend in their life and begin a process of restoration which will bring back God’s blessing upon their life. For anyone who may view Hebrews 10:26-27 in a different light, as falling short of true conversion, there is a parallel application. When it comes to God’s plan of salvation and His solutions to the problems of everyday life, there is no Plan B. There is only Plan A and it can only be received and experienced through faith in Jesus Christ (John 14:6). Helping that individual to redirect their search back to Christ is essential.

Now here is an amazing thing, especially for those who promote the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as indispensable for the highest levels of victorious Christian living. Why doesn’t the author of Hebrews insist on this experience as the remedy for their regression? After thirteen chapters and 303 verses of New Testament teaching, warning and encouragement; there is not one single mention of the need for this experiential event in their lives, whatsoever.

Sometimes an argument from silence can be absolutely deafening.