

Questions About Hebrews 6:1-3

By Pastor Ed Anderson

I need training here, please help! “Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this will we do, if God permit.”

Hebrews 6:1-3 KJV

Answer:

Absolutely — this passage in **Hebrews 6:1–3** is a rich and often misunderstood invitation to *spiritual maturity*, not a rejection of foundational truths.

You’re not alone! Hebrews 6:1–3 is a *call to grow deeper*, not a dismissal of the gospel. It’s saying:

“Let’s not stay stuck at the basics — let’s grow up into maturity, led by God’s Spirit.”

Here’s a breakdown and training insight from this passage:

1. “Leaving the principles...” — What does that mean?

“Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ...” (v.1)

“Leaving” doesn’t mean abandoning — it means *building upon*. Like a house is built upon a foundation, we don’t keep re-pouring the foundation. We move forward to complete the building.

Think of it like this:

- We don’t forget the ABCs — but eventually, we’re supposed to read books.
- We don’t abandon the cross — we are called to **live in its power** daily.

2. “...Let us go on unto perfection” — What does that mean?

“Let us go on unto perfection...” (v.1)

- The word for “perfection” is **teleiotes**, meaning **maturity** or **completeness**.

- It's not sinless perfection, but **spiritual growth and readiness** — especially in light of judgment, end-time deception, and the need to help others.

Just like Jesus said in Matthew 5:48, "*Be ye therefore perfect...*" — not flawless, but mature, loving, whole.

3. The six foundational teachings of the faith

Hebrews lists **six essential doctrines** we all need to understand before we can grow deeper:

a. Repentance from dead works

- Turning away from sin and works that lead nowhere.

b. Faith toward God

- Trusting in God's promises, not in ourselves.

c. Doctrine of baptisms (plural!)

- Water baptism
- Baptism of the Holy Spirit
- Possibly even baptism by fire (trials) or the baptism of Jesus' death (Rom.

6:3)

d. Laying on of hands

- Symbolizes transfer of blessing, ordination, healing, and Spirit empowerment.

e. Resurrection of the dead

- The great hope: the righteous will rise again at Christ's coming!

f. Eternal judgment

- God's final justice — the Great White Throne, the books opened, rewards and consequences.

These are not the *end* of Christian understanding — they are the *starting point*. God is calling us to grow beyond just knowing doctrine to *living transformed lives in power and holiness*.

4. "This we will do, if God permit" — Growth is a partnership

- This last phrase (v.3) reminds us: **spiritual growth is only possible through God's power.**
- We make ourselves teachable, hungry, and obedient — but the Spirit transforms us.

How to Respond Practically

1. **Review the six doctrines** — Ask God to help you master them so you can teach others.
2. **Ask for maturity** — Pray, “Lord, grow me deeper in grace, not just knowledge.”
3. **Study Revelation and end-time messages** — These are not for spiritual babies, but mature believers (see Rev. 14:12).
4. **Mentor others** — Help new believers understand the foundation so they can also grow.

“Now is the time to graduate from milk to meat. God is calling His church to grow up — not give up.” — *Pastor Ed Anderson*