

37. Maturity In Christ

Hebrews 5:11-6:8 NIV

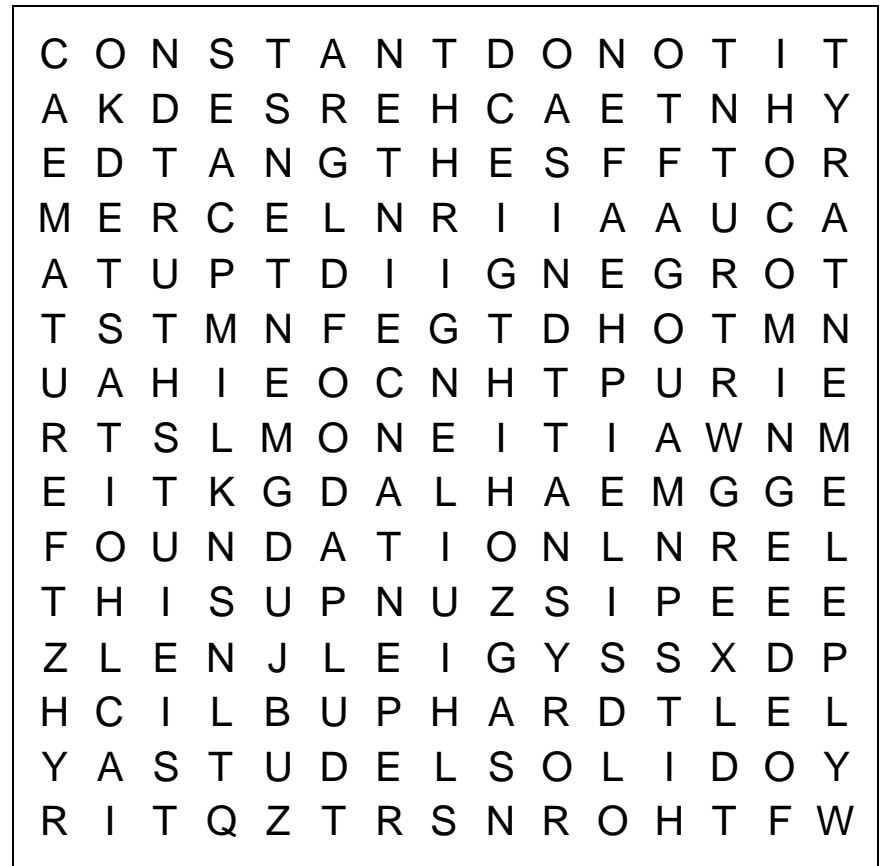
We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn. In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And God permitting, we will do so.

It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age, if they fall away, to be brought back to repentance, because to their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace.

Land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the blessing of God.

But land that produces thorns and thistles is worthless and is in danger of being cursed. In the end it will be burned.



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| AGE | FOUNDATION | PERMITTING |
| COMING | GIFT | PUBLIC |
| CONSTANT | HARD | RAIN |
| CROP | INFANT | REPENTANCE |
| DEAD | JUDGMENT | SLOW |
| DEATH | LAYING | SOLID |
| ELEMENTARY | LOSS | TASTED |
| ENLIGHTENED | MATURE | TEACHERS |
| EXPLAIN | MILK | THORNS |
| FOOD | OUGHT | TRUTHS |