Application of Hebrews 6

Final Assignment for BI5500 Hermeneutics

Jarret Hutchison

1. Measure the Width of the River to Cross.

The main difference between the biblical situation and ours is that in Hebrews many people were engrained in OT practices. Now society doesn’t focus as heavily on the OT practices, even many Christians now a day’s stay away from the OT because of the level of difficulty in understanding the text. I would say there aren’t many other differences between the original audiences and us besides language and culture as I explained above. We are Christians who struggle with falling into the trap of going through the motions and not progressing in our faith as we should which is very similar to the original audience.

2.Cross the Principlizing Bridge

I noticed 5 major theological principles running through this passage of scripture including repentance of sin, walking in faith with God the Father/Son/Spirit, receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit, hoping in the resurrection of Christ and being aware of final judgment.[[1]](#footnote-1)

3.Consult the Biblical Map

The principles hold up well when consulting the overall message of the Bible and I will break them down individually to show how they fit with the Bible as a whole. The first thing that I pointed out dealing with repentance of sin is seen all over the Bible from the OT with Israel turning from God and being called back to repentance all the way through the NT in Revelation. One supporting verse of many in the NT is one from Acts 3:19 where Peter calls out the crowd and says “Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out.” The next principle I pointed was walking in faith with God the Father/Son/Spirit which again is seen in many areas of the Bible like in Deuteronomy 5:33 where it says “You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live, and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.” My next point of receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit are alluded to in many ways through out the Bible, one way specifically is seen in Acts 2:38 where it says “And Peter said to them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” My final two points of hoping in the resurrection of Christ and final judgment are seen mostly throughout the NT but are referenced in the OT as well. Seen in 1 Peter 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” and also John 5:28-29 “Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.”[[2]](#footnote-2)

4.Grasp the Text in Our Town

a. Observe how the principles in the text address the original situation.

The original readers are being addressed to not continue practicing empty works of the OT but to push on from those works into a more mature relationship with God through the Spirit and remain encouraged by hoping in the resurrection of Christ looking forward to the end.

b. Discover a parallel situation in a contemporary context.

A very relevant situation that we have now a day is people going through the motions of church and being good on the outside but not diving in head first to a relationship with Christ. These people seem to have it all together but they are really not growing or maturing in Christ they are just attending a few services/doing the right activities and think they are okay when they really are in danger.

c. Make your application specific.

Making this more specific would be believers not just attending a service and performing the right motions but being involved in an active bible study on their own and with a group of people, becoming dependent on God in all areas of life not just giving him Sundays. I would add that they would also be tuning into the Holy Spirit through prayer and not just praying but diligently seeking His guidance relying on the hope of Jesus Christ’s resurrection and being aware of the final judgment that is to come.

Bibliography

P. Ellingworth & E. A. Nida. A Translators Handbook On The Letter To The Hebrews. New

York: United Bible Societies. 1994.

The MacArthur Study Bible, English Standard Version. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2007.

Duvall, J. Scott and J. Daniel Hays. Grasping God’s Word. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

1. A Translators Handbook on the Letter to the Hebrews, P. Ellingworth & E. A. Nida (New York: United Bible Societies. 1994) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The MacArthur Study Bible, English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2007) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)