

A cityscape at sunset with a glowing cross in the sky. The background is a dense urban landscape with many buildings, illuminated by the warm light of the setting sun. In the upper right corner, a bright cross is visible in the sky, with a lens flare effect. The text is overlaid on the image.

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Introduction:

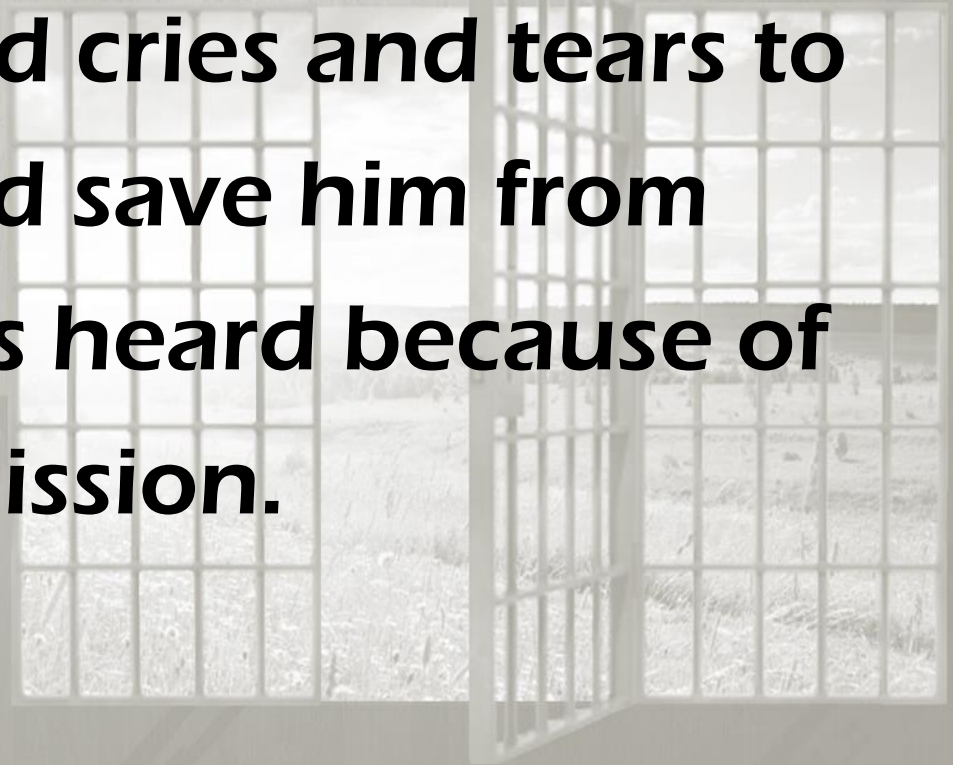
Jesus is at the right hand of God in Heaven, but His body is still here on earth, because it is us!

A PRISON

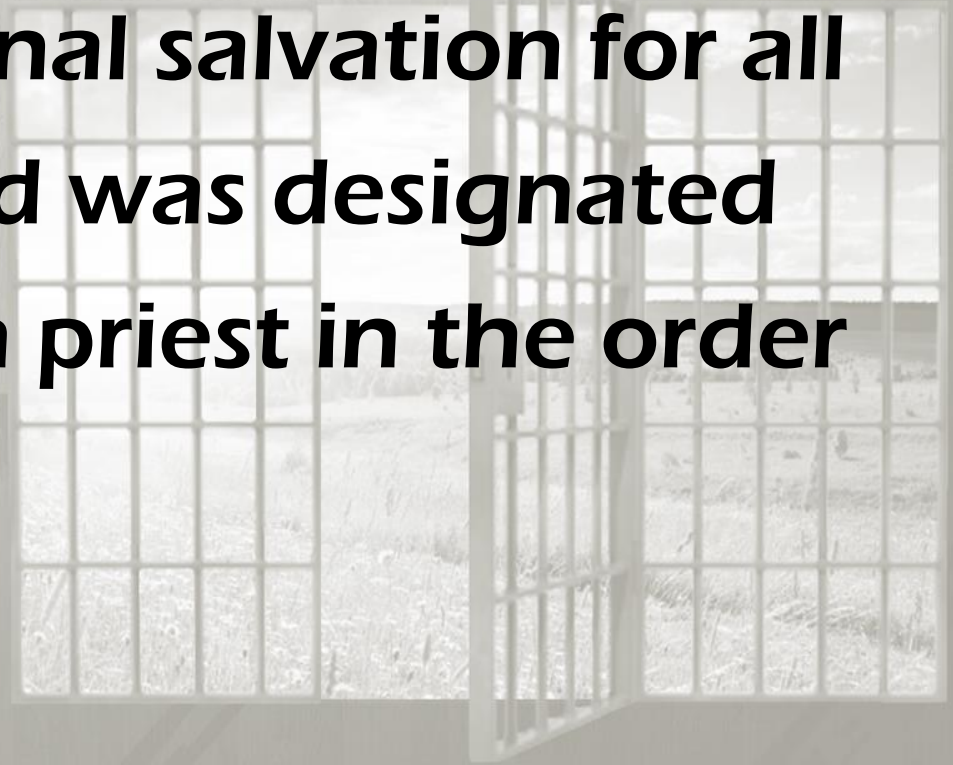


Text: Hebrews 5:7-14

During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

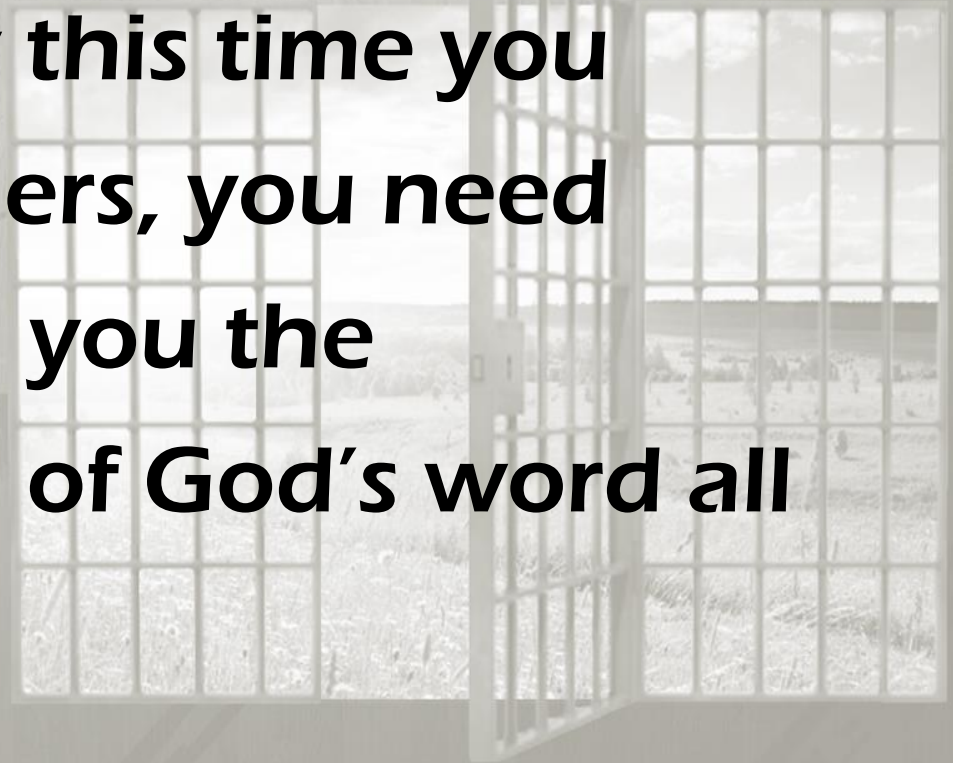


Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.



We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn.

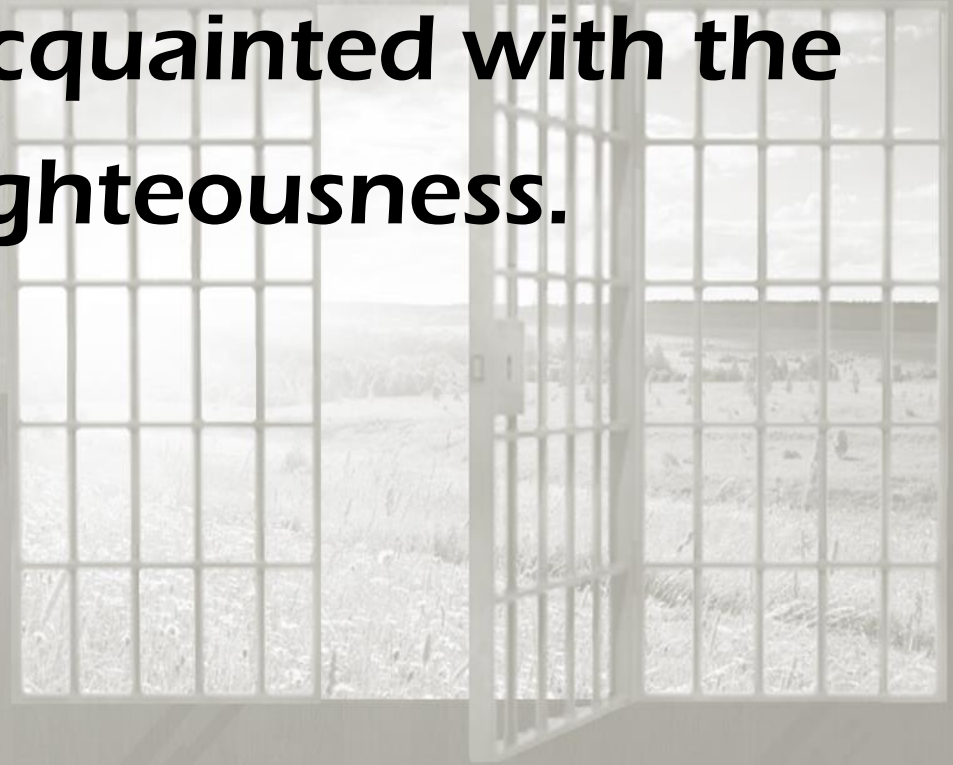
In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again.



You need milk, not solid food!

**Anyone who lives on milk, being still
an infant, is not acquainted with the
teaching about righteousness.**

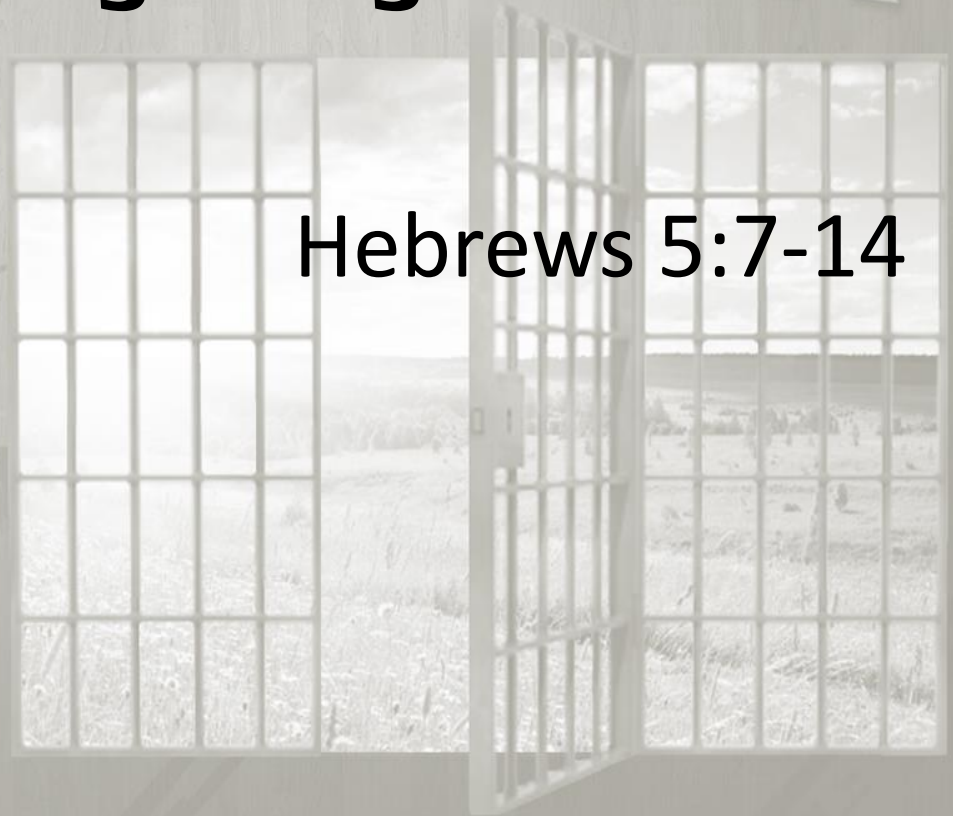
A PRISON



But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

**BECAUSE PRIDE IS
A PRISON**

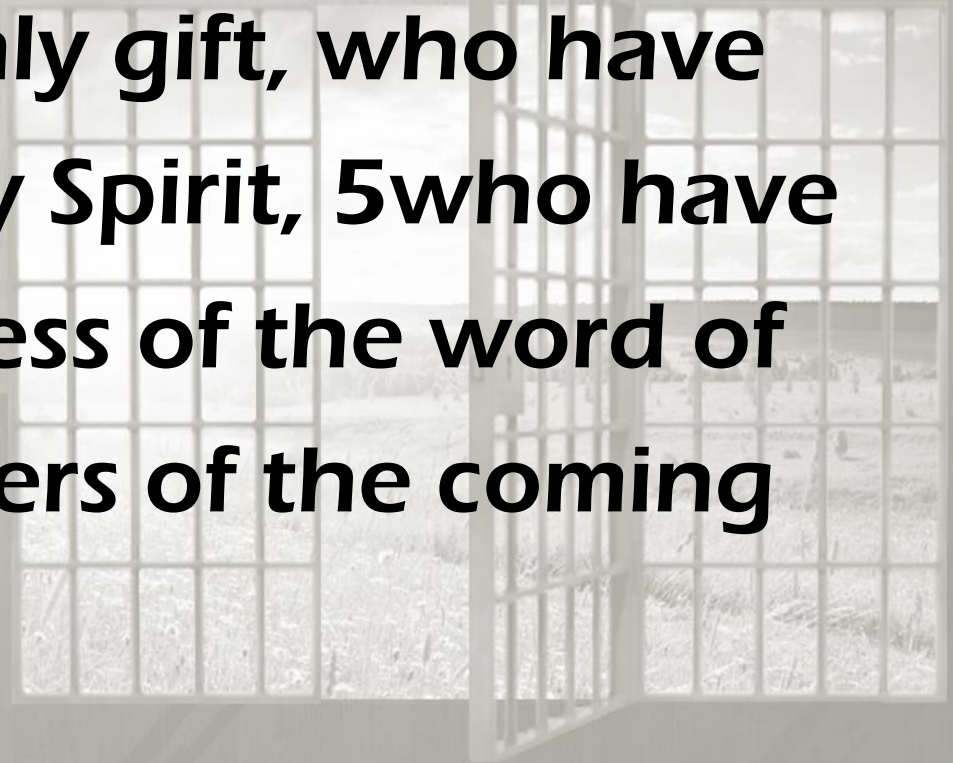
Hebrews 5:7-14



Text: Hebrews 6:1-12

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, 5who 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.

A PRISON



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.

Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are confident of better things in your case—things that accompany salvation.

God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure.

We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Hebrews 6:1-12

Jesus is our High Priest. He is the source of our **SALVATION** (5:9).

When we have **RECEIVED** the life of Jesus Christ, it is natural for us to **GROW** into spiritual **MATURITY** (5:11-14, 6:1-3).

God warns us that there are severe
CONSEQUENCES when we
deliberately choose to sin (6:4-8).

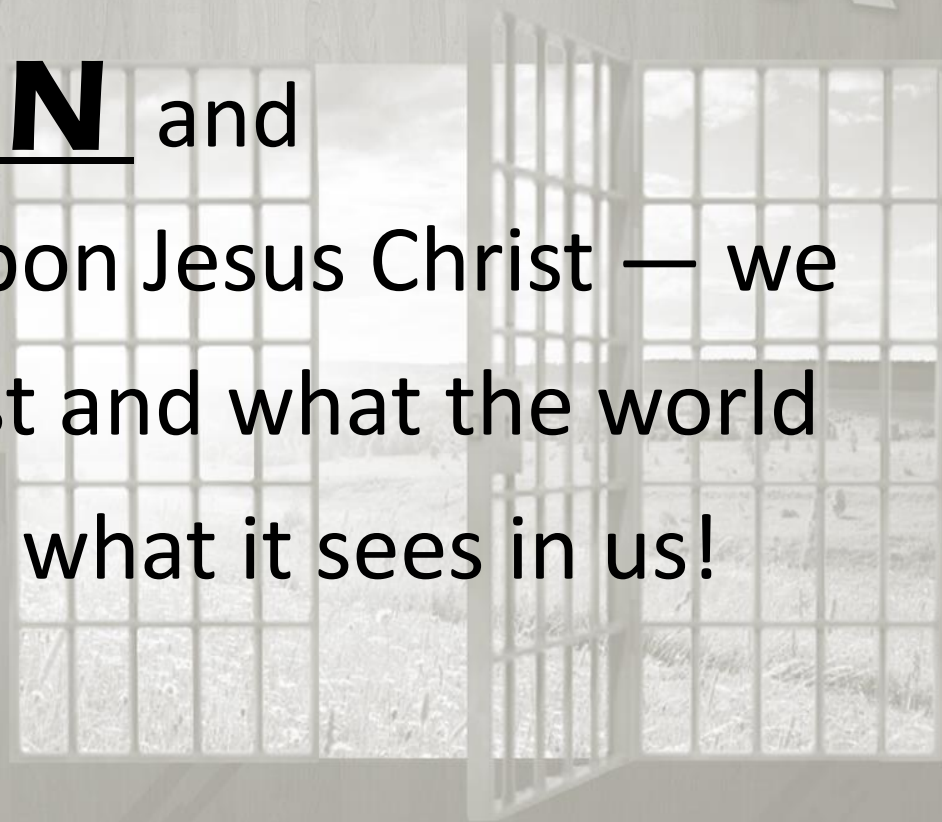
BECAUSE PRIDE IS
A PRISON



When we do this, we are in danger of:

FALLING AWAY.

Inflicting great **PAIN** and
DISGRACE upon Jesus Christ — we
are the Body of Christ and what the world
knows about Jesus is what it sees in us!



When we do this, we are in danger of:

Losing our ability to **RESPOND** to
God.

BECAUSE PRIDE IS
Becoming spiritually

UNFRUITFUL and eventually
CURSED!



God has promised that He will not forget
our **WORK** and our **LOVE** for Him.
These are the things that should naturally
ACCOMPANY salvation (6:9-10)!

BECAUSE PRIDE IS
A PRISON



The fullness of our spiritual

INHERITANCE is certain (6:11-12)

when we exercise:

1. **FAITH** .
2. **DILIGENCE** .
3. **PATIENCE** .



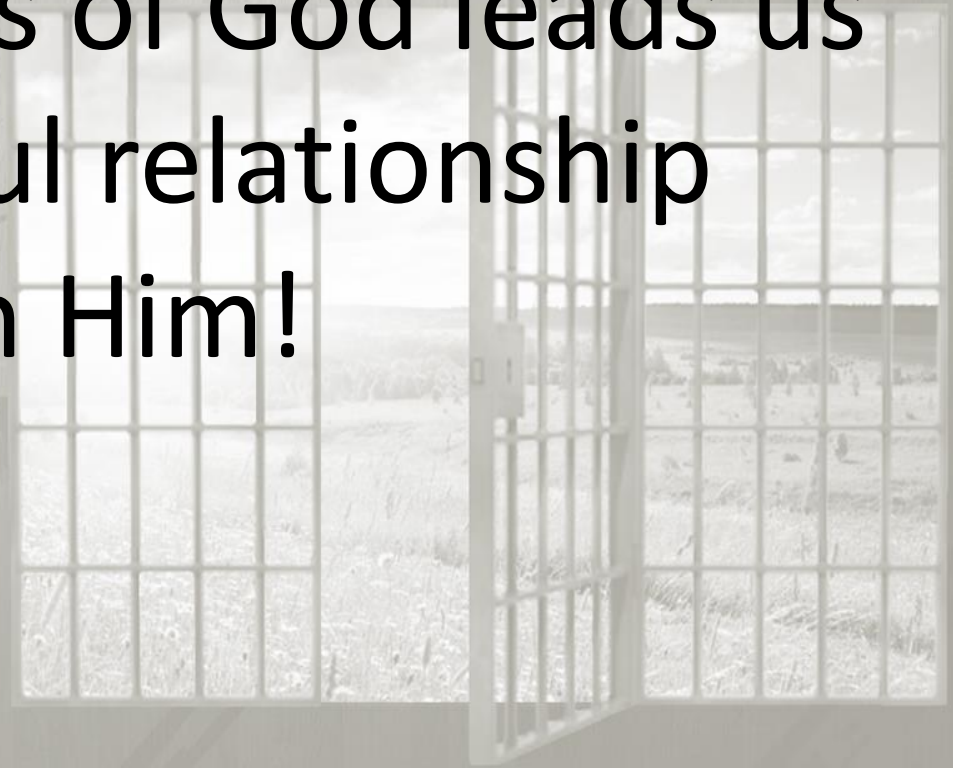
JAIL BREAK

Conclusion:

The forgiveness of God leads us
into a fruitful relationship
with Him!

BECAUSE PRIDE IS

A PRISON



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