

# Hebrews 6:7-12

## POINTS:

1. Your response to circumstances reflects an underlying condition of your heart.
2. Your response then generates the appropriate and inevitable retribution.

Hebrews 6:7 – **“For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God.”**

1093 [e]	1063 [e]	3588 [e]	4095 [e]	3588 [e]	1909 [e]	846 [e]	2064 [e]	4178 [e]	5205 [e]	2532 [e]	5088 [e]	1008 [e]
Gē	gar	hē	piouσα	ton	ep'	autēs	erchomenon	pollakis	hyeton	kai	tiktousa	botanēn
7 Γῆ	γὰρ	ἡ	πιοῦσα	τὸν	ἐπ'	αὐτῆς	ἐρχόμενον	πολλάκις	ὑέτον	, καὶ	τίκτουςα	βοτάνην
Land	for	-	having drunk in	the	upon	it	coming	often	rain	and	producing	vegetation
N-NFS	Conj	Art-NFS	V-APA-NFS	Art-AMS	Prep	PPro-GF3S	V-PPM/P-AMS	Adv	N-AMS	Conj	V-PPA-NFS	N-AFS

2111 [e]	1565 [e]	1223 [e]	3739 [e]	2532 [e]	1090 [e]	3335 [e]	2129 [e]	575 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]
eutheton	ekeinois	di'	hous	kai	geōrgeitai	metalambanei	eulogias	apo	tou	Theou
εὐθέτον	ἐκεῖνοις	δι'	οὓς	καὶ	γεωργεῖται	, μεταλαμβάνει	εὐλογίας	ἀπὸ	τοῦ	Θεοῦ .
useful	for those	for the sake of	whom	also	it is tilled	partakes	of blessing	from	-	God
Adj-AFS	DPro-DMP	Prep	RelPro-AMP	Conj	V-PIM/P-3S	V-PIA-3S	N-GFS	Prep	Art-GMS	N-GMS

1. Key to understanding this is to know that your response to your circumstances reflects an underlying condition.
2. The rain is not the source of the seeds. The rain just causes the seeds to spring forth.
3. The sun can melt wax or harden clay. If a substances melts or hardens is not determined by the sun but by the material the sun shines on. So are our hearts.

6:8 – **“But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned.**

1627 [e]	1161 [e]	173 [e]	2532 [e]	5146 [e]	96 [e]	2532 [e]	2671 [e]	1451 [e]	3739 [e]
ekpherousa	de	akanthas	kai	tribolous	adokimos	kai	kataras	engys	hēs
8 ἐκφέρουσα	δὲ	ἀκάνθας	καὶ	τριβόλους	ἀδόκιμος	καὶ	κατάρας	ἐγγύς	, ἧς
[That] bringing forth	however	thorns	and	thistles	[is] worthless	and	a curse	near to	of which
V-PPA-NFS	Conj	N-AFP	Conj	N-AMP	Adj-NFS	Conj	N-GFS	Prep	RelPro-GFS

3588 [e]	5056 [e]	1519 [e]	2740 [e]
to	telos	eis	kausin
τὸ	τέλος	εἰς	καῦσιν .
the	end [is]	unto	burning
Art-NNS	N-NNS	Prep	N-AFS

## Examples of False Believers:

1. Simon Magus was baptized (Acts 8:13)
2. Demas was involved in Christian work (2 Tim. 4:9-10)
3. Judas was involved with healing, casting out demons (Mark 6:12; Matt. 10:5)

Isaiah's example of Israel as a vineyard in Isaiah 5 shows what worthless soil can do even in the hands of a careful gardener.

This fire is not a fire of cleansing but of judgment.

First Corinthians 3:10-23 –

“If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you (*plural*) are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.” – First Corinthians 3:15-17

6:9 – **“Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved, we feel sure of better things—things that belong to salvation.**

3982 [e]	1161 [e]	4012 [e]	4771 [e]	27 [e]	3588 [e]	2908 [e]	2532 [e]	2192 [e]
Pepeismetha	de	peri	hymōn	agapētoi	ta	kreissona	kai	echomena
9 Πεπείσμεθα	δὲ	περὶ	ὑμῶν	, ἀγαπητοί	, τὰ	κρείσσονα	, καὶ	ἐχόμενα
We are persuaded	however	concerning	you	beloved	of	better [things]	and	[things] accompanying
V-RIM/P-1P	Conj	Prep	PPro-G2P	Adj-VMP	Art-ANP	Adj-ANP-C	Conj	V-PPM/P-ANP

4991 [e]	1487 [e]	2532 [e]	3779 [e]	2980 [e]
sōtērias	ei	kai	houtōs	laloumen
σωτηρίας	, εἰ	καὶ	οὕτως	λαλοῦμεν .
salvation	if	even	like this	we speak
N-GFS	Conj	Conj	Adv	V-PIA-1P

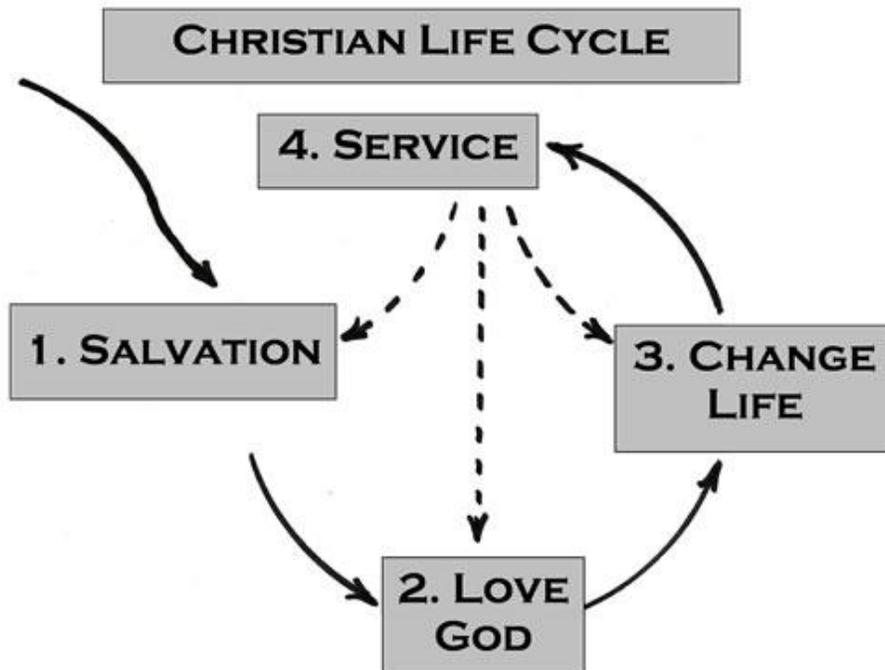
1. **“Even though we speak like this”** indicates that the previous argument included real people who had gone back to ritual worship, but was hypothetical in its application to the readers.
2. The author of this book does not think his readers are lost or have lost their salvation.
3. In fact, he believes they are saved. He doesn't even think they are close.
4. Remember the pronouns the writer is using:
  - a. “you” in 5:11, 12
  - b. “us” in 6:1
  - c. “we” in 6:3
  - d. “those” in 6:4
  - e. “your” in 6:9 (“you” 6:10,11,12)
5. The writer also believes they are more like the field in verse 6:7 than 6:8
  - a. In verse 6:10 he believes they have done deeds worthy of reward.
  - b. He does fear they have backed away due to fear, opposition, etc.
6. **“things that accompany salvation”** would NOT be getting burned like thorns and thistles.
7. Instead **“things that accompany salvation”** would be:
  - a. Growth
  - b. Discipline
  - c. Production
  - d. Rewards
8. These things are all part of the Christian life. The saved person is not in danger of being burned with fire.

6:10 – “For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.

3756 [e]	1063 [e]	94 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	1950 [e]	3588 [e]	2041 [e]	4771 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]	26 [e]	3739 [e]
ou	gar	adikos	ho	Theos	epilathesthai	tou	ergou	hymōn	kai	tēs	agapēs	hēs
10 οὐ	γὰρ	ἄδικος	ὁ	Θεὸς	, ἐπιλαθέσθαι	τοῦ	ἔργου	ὑμῶν	καὶ	τῆς	ἀγάπης	ἧς
Not	for	unjust [is]	-	God	to forget	the	work	of you	and	the	love	that
Adv	Conj	Adj-NMS	Art-NMS	N-NMS	V-ANM	Art-GNS	N-GNS	PPro-G2P	Conj	Art-GFS	N-GFS	RelPro-GFS

1731 [e]	1519 [e]	3588 [e]	3686 [e]	846 [e]	1247 [e]	3588 [e]	40 [e]	2532 [e]	1247 [e]
enedeixasthe	eis	to	onoma	autou	diakonēsantes	tois	hagiois	kai	diakonountes
ἐνεδείξασθε	εἰς	τὸ	ὄνομα	αὐτοῦ	, διακονήσαντες	τοῖς	ἁγίοις	καὶ	διακονοῦντες
you have shown	toward	the	name	of Him	having ministered	to the	saints	and	[still] ministering
V-AIM-2P	Prep	Art-ANS	N-ANS	PPro-GM3S	V-APA-NMP	Art-DMP	Adj-DMP	Conj	V-PPA-NMP

1. “**work**” did not cause salvation but was a result of salvation.
2. Notice the Cycle of Christian Life:
  - a. **Salvation** - Saved in verse 6:9  
 “Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved, we feel sure of better things— things that belong to salvation.”
  - b. **Service** - Helped and continue to help his people (6:10)  
 “For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.
  - c. **Work** - Changed Life – “Work” indicates Christian character (6:10)
  - d. **Love** God – “Love” for God indicates a knowledge of God (6:10)



6:11 – “And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end,

1937 [e]	1161 [e]	1538 [e]	4771 [e]	3588 [e]	846 [e]	1731 [e]	4710 [e]	4314 [e]
Epithymoumen	de	hekaston	hymōn	tēn	autēn	endeiknysthai	spoudēn	pros
11 Ἐπιθυμοῦμεν	δὲ ,	ἕκαστον	ὑμῶν	τὴν	αὐτὴν	ἐνδείκνυσθαι ,	σπουδὴν ,	πρὸς
We desire	now	each	of you	the	same	to show	earnestness	toward
V-PIA-1P	Conj	Adj-AMS	PPro-G2P	Art-AFS	PPro-AF3S	V-PNM	N-AFS	Prep

3588 [e]	4136 [e]	3588 [e]	1680 [e]	891 [e]	5056 [e]
tēn	plērophorian	tēs	elpidos	achri	telous
τὴν	πληροφορίαν	τῆς	ἐλπίδος	ἄχρι	τέλους ,
the	full assurance	of the	hope	unto	[the] end
Art-AFS	N-AFS	Art-GFS	N-GFS	Prep	N-GNS

1. **“Same diligence to the very end”** means they will have to continue to run in the Christian Life Circle to the very end of their lives. They will need to continue:
  - a. Learning of God
  - b. Clothing themselves with Christ
  - c. Serving people
2. If they drift away in their knowledge or their application they will drift back toward Judaism.
3. **“Full Assurance”** - πληροφορίαν - Plerophorian - means “full assurance” and is translated as “conviction”, confidence” and “full assurance”. It is used four times in the GNT (Greek New Testament):
  - a. Colossians 2:1-2 – “For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of **full assurance** of understanding and the knowledge of God’s mystery, which is Christ,
  - b. 1 Thessalonians 1:5 – “our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with **full conviction**. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.”
  - c. Hebrews 6:11 – (*here*)
  - d. Hebrews 10:21-23 – “Since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in **full assurance** of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.”
4. The idea here is not that they will secure their salvation by doing these things, but that with understanding they will be fully assured of their saved position in Christ and realize their full potential as a son of God.
  - a. A believer who is focused on growth and production with run the Christian race correctly.
  - b. A believer who is not growing and drifting away forgets their status of being in Christ and begin to live aimlessly.
  - c. A believer who is thinks they can lose their salvation are burdened with fears of losing their salvation, burdens to maintain their salvation and, often, hopelessness of doubt (the opposite of full assurance).
5. In 5:11 these believers started to drift from learning the word of God (“you are slow to learn”).

- a. The result was fragmented understanding of God and his plan.
- b. They had then become confused believers tempted to turn away from Christianity and execute improper living.

6:12 – “so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

2443 [e]	3361 [e]	3576 [e]	1096 [e]	3402 [e]	1161 [e]	3588 [e]	1223 [e]	4102 [e]	2532 [e]
hina	mē	nōthroi	genēsthe	mimētai	de	tōn	dia	pisteōs	kai
12 ἵνα	μὴ	νωθοροὶ	γένησθε	, μιμηταὶ	δὲ	τῶν	διὰ	πίστεως	καὶ
so that	not	sluggish	you may be	imitators	however	of those	through	faith	and
Conj	Adv	Adj-NMP	V-ASM-2P	N-NMP	Conj	Art-GMP	Prep	N-GFS	Conj

3115 [e]	2816 [e]	3588 [e]	1860 [e]
makrothymias	klēronomountōn	tas	epangelias
μακροθυμίας	κληρονομούντων	τὰς	ἐπαγγελίας .
patience	inheriting	the	promises
N-GFS	V-PPA-GMP	Art-AFP	N-AFP

1. “**Lazy**” means “sluggish” and is the same word as 5:11 “slow to learn” (“nwqroi” which means “dull, slow, sluggish”)
2. “**Imitate**” – mimetai – This is where we get our word “mimic”.
  - a. It refers to watching and “mimicing” the “winners” in the Christian life live.
  - b. We all “mimic” someone. We need to purposely chose good examples.
  - c. Chapter 11 of Hebrews will give a good list to start with.
3. The winners are going to have:
  - a. “**Faith**” – from an understanding of God’s Word
  - b. “**Patience**” – which is the application of Christ-likeness to their lives
    - i. *Makrothumia* meaning “patience”, “long-suffering”.
    - ii. From two words *makros* - *thymos*:
      1. The word *makros* means “long”, so by definition this word includes the concept of waiting.
      2. *Thymos* means “passion”, “anger”
    - iii. Together this word means “long-passion”
    - iv. It is a characteristic of God ub 1 Peter 3:20 and 2 Peter 3:15
    - v. It is one of the fruit of the spirit in Galatians 5:22
4. Result – “**Inherit what has been promised**” which is rewards for service.
  - a. “Inherit” - κληρονομουντων – kleronomounton – which is a verb present active meaning “inherit, obtain acquire by inheritance”:
    - i. you are active in “inheriting” now.
    - ii. These believers are currently in the process of receiving the promise of salvation along with the powers and fruit of that salvation.