



# INSTRUCTIONS IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

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Entry 5 - 4

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## Training For The Coming Age

The book of Hebrews is the great transition book of the Bible. It moves us from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant. We find 10 powerful upgrades in the book of Hebrews; a new High Priest, a new sanctuary, a new sacrifice, a new priesthood, a new Sabbath, a new temple, a new veil in the temple, a new application of the Law, a new city and of course, a New Covenant. While the new is received by all believing Gentiles and Jews, many Old Testament shadows still remain for the purpose of illustration and the Jews are commanded to continue in them. Hebrews, the transition book also speaks of another major shift; one that presently looms before us. It is called, the age to come.

Hebrews teaches that we can experience the powers of the age to come. Heb. 6:7 I am not referring to the millennial reign of Christ but to an age of anointing that comes before the return of the Lord. Isaiah says;

***“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises on you. Darkness covers the earth and thick darkness ... the people, but the Lord rises on you and his glory appears over you.” Isa. 60:1-3***

The coming age is dawning. Israel is one of God’s time clocks. Her birth was an indicator of the coming age; the transition has begun. In 1897 Theodor Herzl announced a Jewish state within 50 years. He was not religious but this rattled Satan’s cage. In the Holocaust, Satan tried to destroy the Jewish people to halt God’s plan. He knew that if Israel received the promises of God, the Lord would return and he would be finished. Six million Jews were killed, but Israel was still born. Now Satan has Iran’s nuclear threat aimed at annihilating the Jews. It will not happen but it comes as a sign. The coming age is upon us and with it we need a new kind of teaching. The old teaching has Christians living in fear. They are afraid of the present financial crisis, of natural disasters, terrorist

attacks, the great tribulation, persecution and death. Great men like David Wilkerson prophesy that judgments are on the way. What he speaks of will come. I am not sure of his timing but judgments are coming. If you are trembling in fear because of the coming judgments then you have not yet received your training for the age to come. The following describes how Christians will be in the coming age.

***“They [Christians] overcame him [the devil] by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony, and they loved not their lives so much as to shrink from death.” Rev. 12:11***

These Christians have authority; they can face calamity. They partner with God and are not afraid to die.

One distracting teaching in the church is the doctrine of the rapture. It is taught by great men but it leaves people frightened, unprepared and untrained. Many have only seen the dark side of the coming age so they want to escape before it comes. Jesus said;

***“[When you see all of these things], ... do not be afraid ... the end is not yet. ... All these are the beginnings of birth pains.” Mt. 24:6-8***

The birth pains can already be felt and soon the powerful end-time church will be born. I ask you to read Hebrews 5:7-10 and 6:1-12. All that I am sharing with you can be found in these verses. There are two main messages in these verses; one of warning and rebuke, the other of prophetic potential and supernatural expectation. For our teaching we will look at the latter theme. It highlights our need for maturity and training. Here are 4 steps to help you begin training.

1. **Become a perfect priest.**
2. **Become a mature teacher.**
3. **Advance your Bible study.**
4. **Let God's Spirit work in you.**

#### 1. Become a Perfect Priest

Heb. 5:7-10 teaches us about Jesus who is our example. He cried to God to save Him from death and He was heard. The program, nevertheless, did not change. He was obedient to the point of suffering and death and because of this He became a perfect High Priest. He was perfect before but He had never tasted the pains of human suffering and death. Now He is able to identify with our frailty. That is what a High Priest does. He was obedient to God and became a perfect High Priest.

There is one High Priest - Jesus, but we are a nation of priests. See yourself as a priest; an obedient son or daughter who intercedes to bring the needs of people to the Lord. Then bring God's blessings to people. Help change the lives of others. Obey the Lord and train to become a perfect priest.

#### 2. Become a Mature Teacher

Heb. 5:11-14 calls us to the ministry of mentoring others. It says we should be teachers but some are too immature. They still look for answers for their own problems instead of rising up in faith to help others. They are drinking baby's milk. A mature Bible teacher exercises faith. David fought a lion and a bear and proved God in his life. That led him to maturity and leadership and prepared him to fight against Goliath.

See yourself as a mature teacher and be trained by exercising your faith. It is time to rise up and prove God for yourself. Then you will be confident in your faith to help others. You will become a mature teacher who gives solid food. You will know what you are teaching and your life will proclaim it. You will also see through deceptions and be ready to give God inspired counsel.

#### 3. Advance Your Bible Study

Heb. 6:1-3 instructs us to advance our hunger for deeper revelation.

Some people are still studying the most basic teachings about Christ. That is important for those who are just new believers but some who have walked in the faith for decades have not learned anything new. The 6 basic doctrines to move on from are: 1. repentance, 2. faith to believe that God exists, 3. baptisms, 4. laying on of hands (the fact that God wants to use us), 5. resurrections and 6. eternal judgment.

God permitting we will go deeper. See yourself as a student who will search for deeper revelation.

#### 4. Let God's Spirit Work in You

Heb. 6:4-5 says that it is possible to be enlightened, to taste of the heavenly gift, to share in the Holy Spirit, to taste the goodness of God's word and the **powers of the coming age**. See yourself moving in the power of the Holy Spirit. Do not stop believing or exercising faith as the Holy Spirit leads you. As miracles come you will discover new faith. You will partner with God and rise above the fears. This passage of scripture ends with the following .

***“Do not ... become lazy, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.” Heb. 6:12 AQ***



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