



# *FIXING OUR EYES ON JESUS!*


**In the Old & New Testament**  
*A Study in the  
book of Hebrews*



*FIXING OUR  
EYES ON  
JESUS!*

PRESS ON TO MATURITY!  
HEBREWS 5:13 – 6:3

THE DIRECTION  
OF OUR LIVES  
IS MOSTLY  
DETERMINED BY



THE VOICES  
WE RESPOND TO.

@STEVENFURTICK



# Poor Listeners?!

- 5:11 we have much to say, and it is difficult to explain, since you have become poor listeners.
- Ja.1:19 everyone must be quick to hear...in humility receive the word implanted...doers!

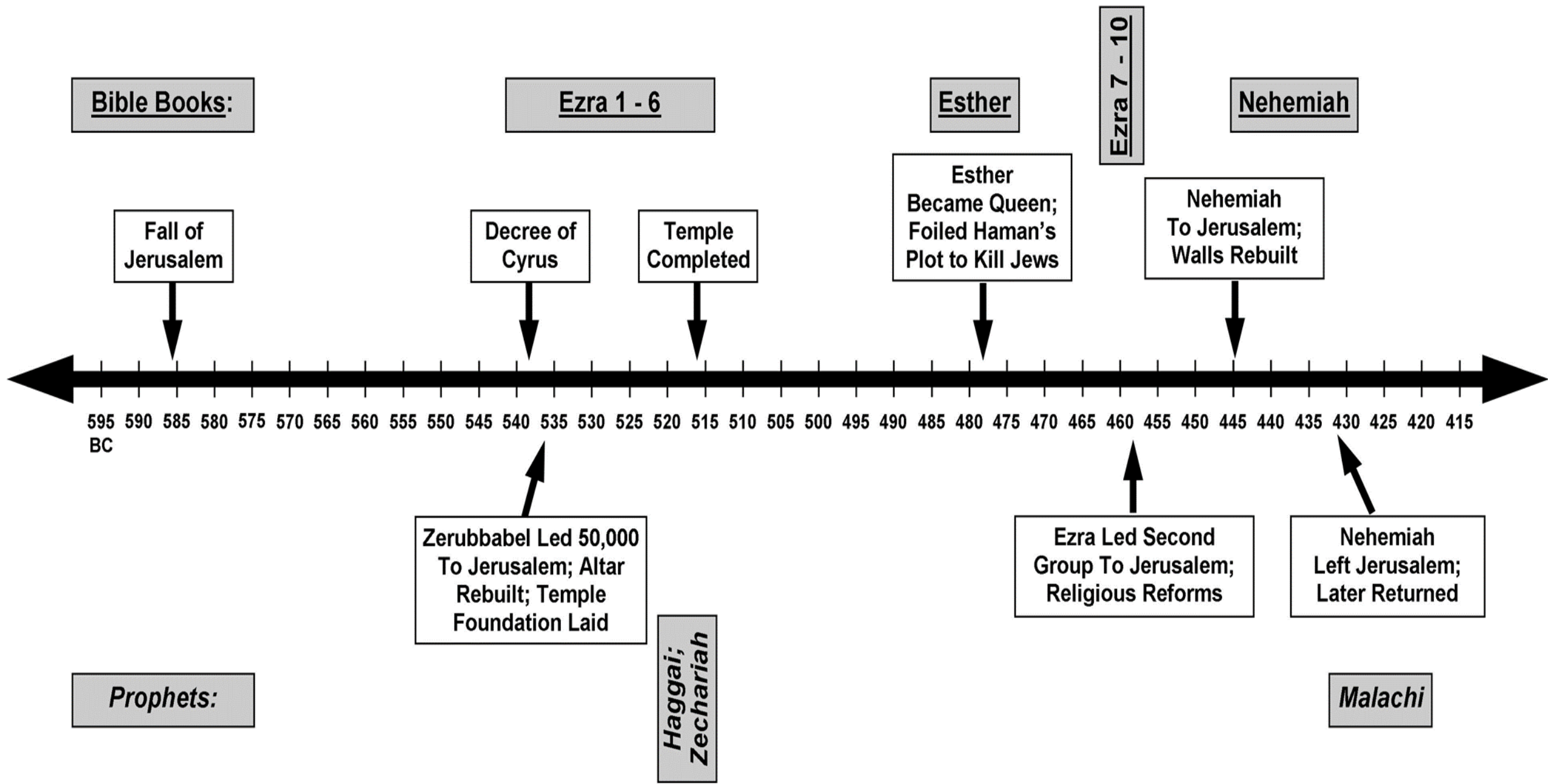
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# Timeline of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther





# Different Types of Hearers

- Hard of hearing... **Matthew 13:13-15**
  - Dull hearts close their eyes and ears to the truth. Ending in prevention from understanding and salvation!
- Dull of hearing... **Hebrews 5:11**
  - The fault is not with the subject material, nor the presenter, but the hearer.





# Different Types of Hearers

- Those with itching ears... **2 Timothy 4:3-4**
  - They dislike sound doctrine which includes “negative” preaching. **2 Timothy 4:2**
  - Many today are afflicted with this hearing problem.
- Those with **good and noble hearts. Lk. 8:15**
  - The Bereans were this type of hearer.  
**Acts 17:11** We all should be like this!





# Steps To Better Hearing

- Hear with faith!
  - Listen with the willingness to accept and believe what the Word of God shows you.
  - Many died in the wilderness because they did not hear with faith. **Hebrews 4:1-2**
- Hear with a mind to act!
  - Are we like those in Ezekiel's day? **Ezek.33:30-32**
  - Hearing must be accompanied by doing to be of any value! **James 1:22-25**





# Don't be a baby!

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- “Cries” for truth, that’s sweet!
- Childish, instead of childlike
- Needs to be pampered!
- Can’t feed themselves

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## M I L K

- Milk is given to the child by the mother (the church)
- Milk is a comfort food (meet MY needs!)
- Milk is a predigested food (Moses was the "voice of God" to Aaron)
- Milk builds up the bones (the framework of spiritual life)
- Milk is the truth of what Jesus did (salvation)
- Gospels and Acts
- We don't throw out the milk once we start eating meat!
- Nothing has to die to produce milk!
- Milk, eggs and bacon for breakfast – the cow and the chicken were involved, but the pig was committed!

## M E A T

- Meat is hunted and prepared by oneself
- Meat is an energy or strength food (what can I do to HELP?)
- Meat must be digested, so it takes more "work" by the individual
- Meat builds up the muscles (the activity of spiritual life)
- Meat is the truth of what Jesus is doing (sanctification)
- Epistles, especially Hebrews
- Milk can enhance the meat, giving us more nourishment
- Something has to die to produce meat!
- The real mark of a carnal (fleshly, worldly) Christian is that they will not permit their old man to die!



A faint, dark silhouette of a person's head and shoulders, wearing a crown of thorns, is visible in the background on the left side of the slide.

# **Are you Mature?**

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- **Self feeding**
- **Self determined, has direction**
- **Knows the basic truths, has good judgment!**
- **Reflects Christlikeness**

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"But solid food is for the mature,  
who because of **practice** have their  
senses **trained** to **discern** good and  
evil." (Hebrews 5:14)

Practice: *Hexis*: constant exercise leading to maturity

Train: *Gumnazo*: gymnastic exercise; undergo discipline

Discern: *Diakrasis*: evaluate and distinguish





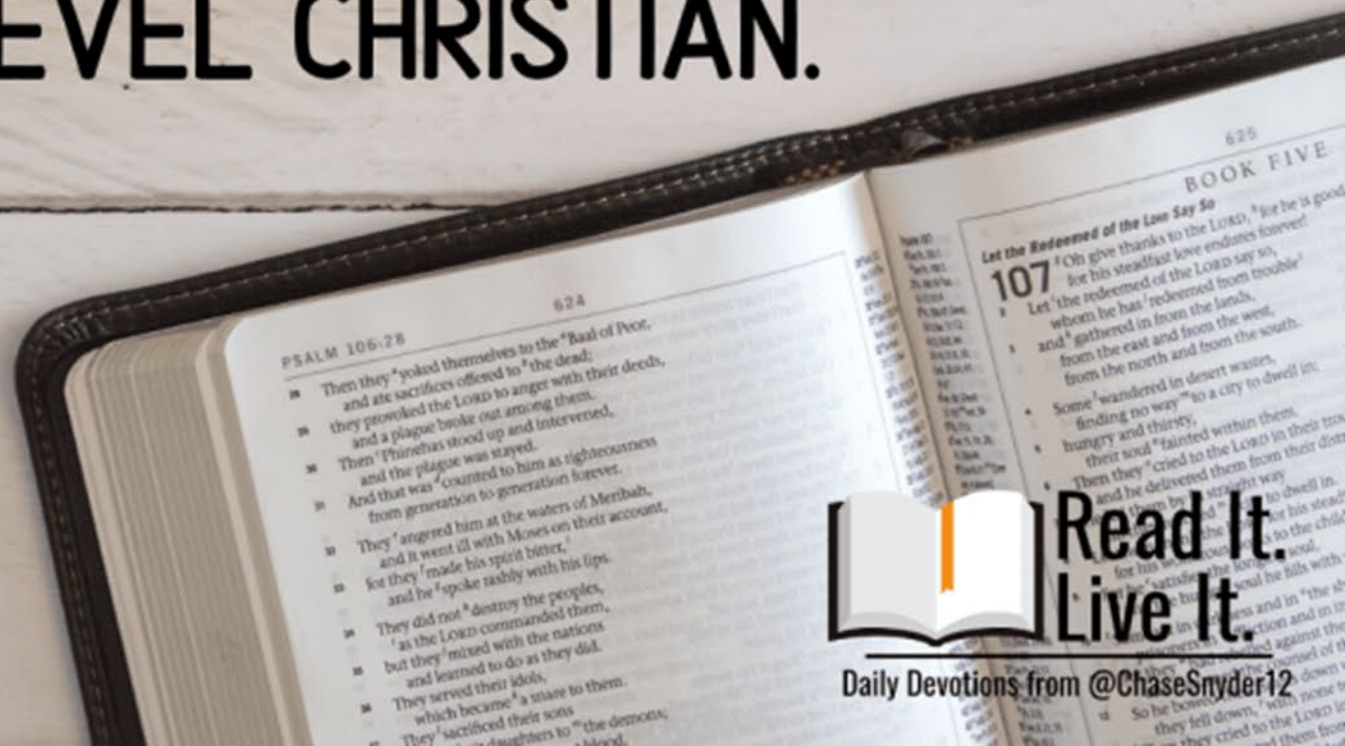
# Tests of Maturity!

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1. Its all about Him, not you!
2. Believes God knows best!
3. Can explain/show it! Studied it!
4. A true foodie! Solid food! Krysis! Good judgment!

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# SURFACE LEVEL BIBLE READING WILL CREATE A SURFACE LEVEL CHRISTIAN.



**Read It.  
Live It.**

Daily Devotions from @ChaseSnyder12





# Tests of Maturity!

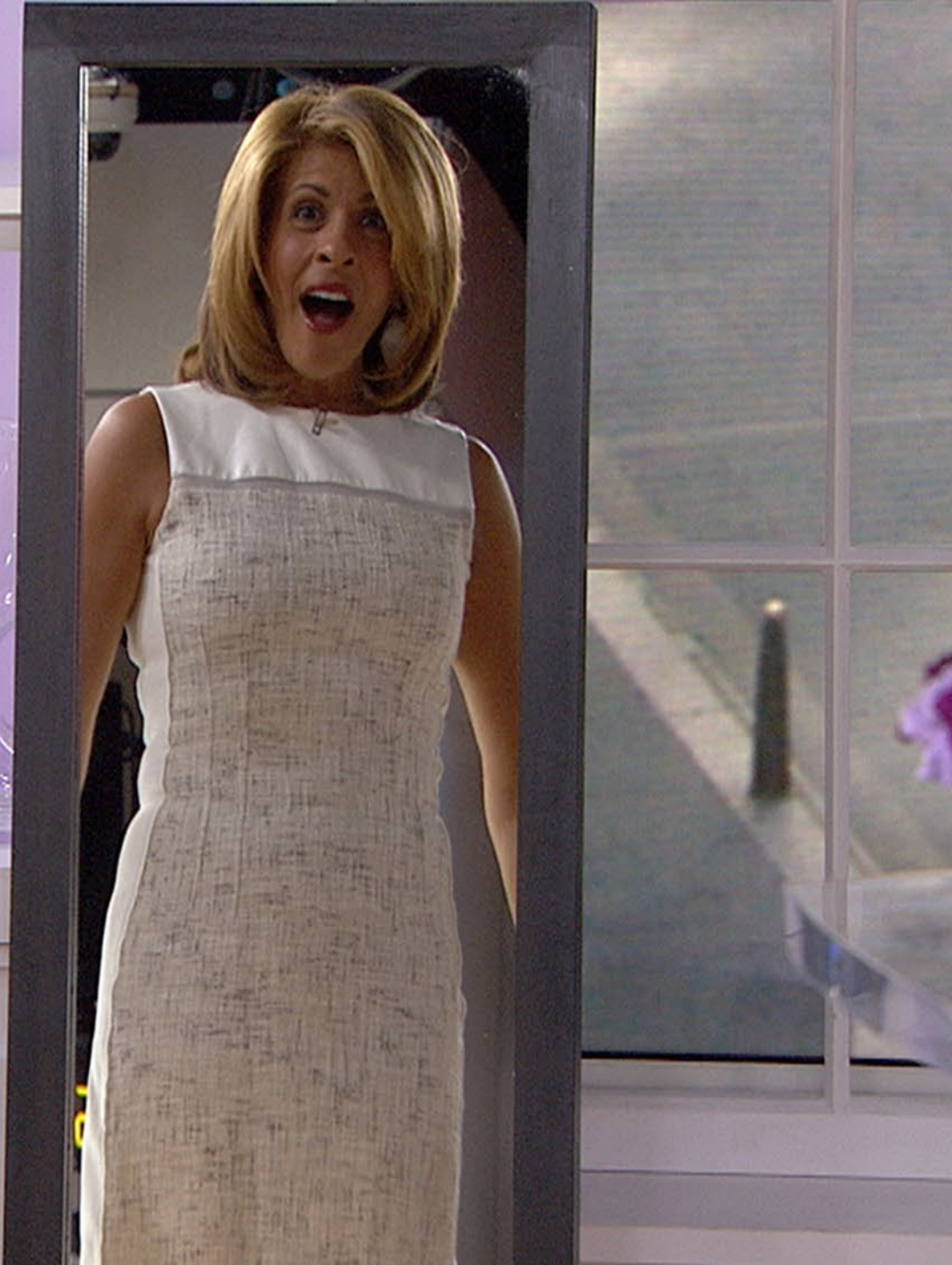
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5. The Christ! Exclusivity of Christ
6. Repentance from dead works
7. press on to maturity, grows!
8. instruction about washings

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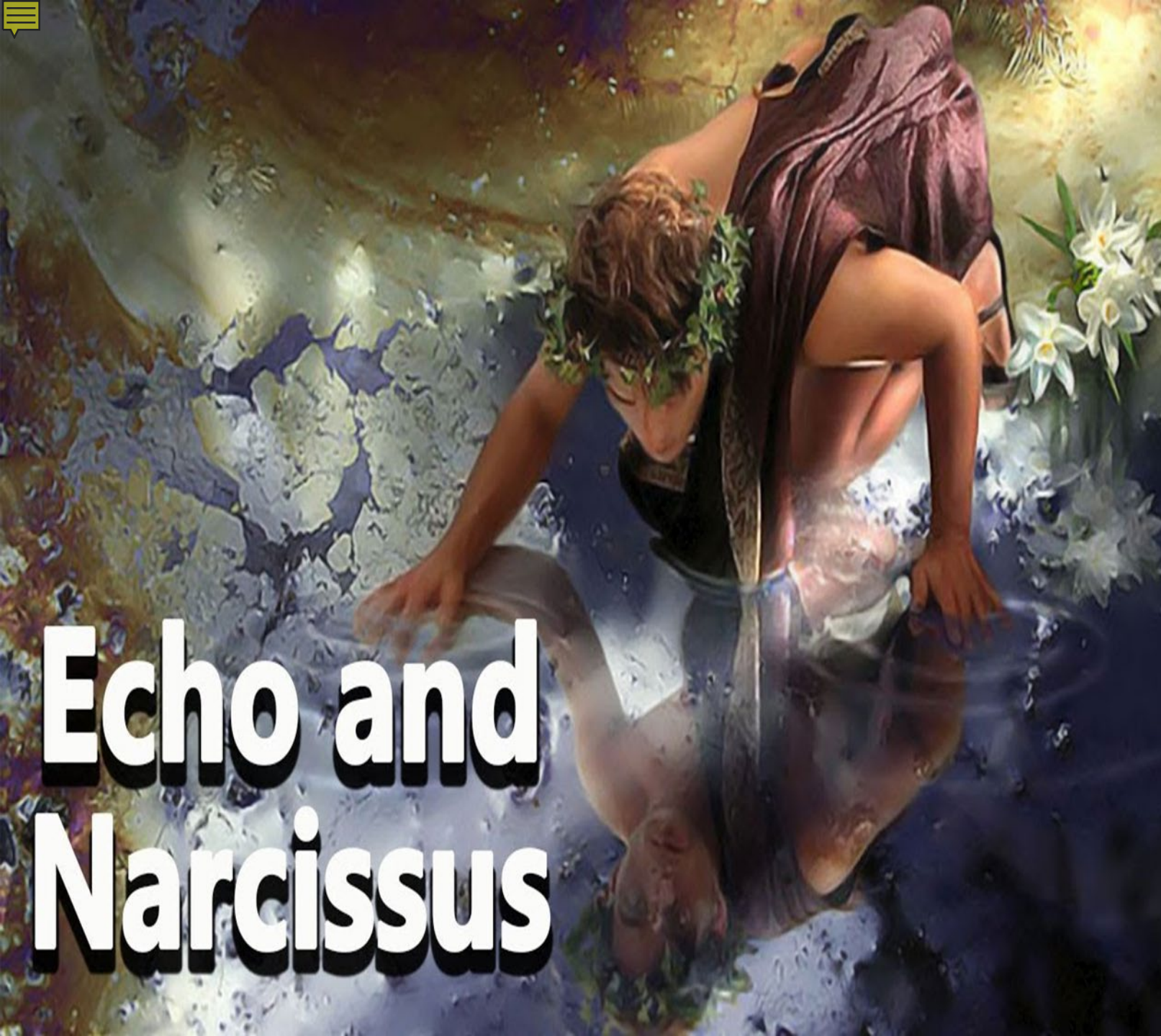
MIRRORS LIE, THEY  
DON'T SHOW YOU  
WHAT'S INSIDE











# Echo and Narcissus

DELL  
BOOK  
681

**OSCAR WILDE'S**  
sensational story of a sinful man

## the **PICTURE** of **DORIAN GRAY**



25¢

UNABRIDGED



For if any be a hearer of  
the word, and not a doer,  
he is like unto a man  
beholding his natural face  
in a glass: For he  
beholdeth himself, and  
goeth his way, and  
straightway forgetteth what  
manner of man he was.

—James 1:23-24

15X

detachable  
magnifying  
mirror for  
exceptional  
details













# Tests of Maturity!

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9. the resurrection of the dead

10. and eternal judgment

▪ What do you keep going back to?

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Jas 1:23-24 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; 24 for [once] he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was.

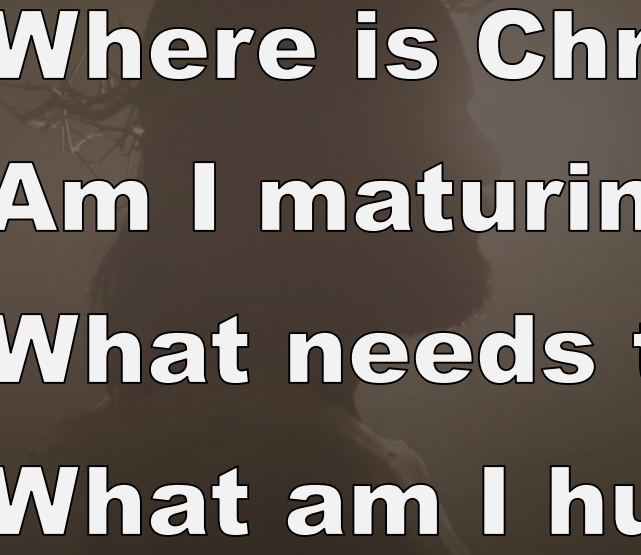
1Co 13:12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I also have been fully known.





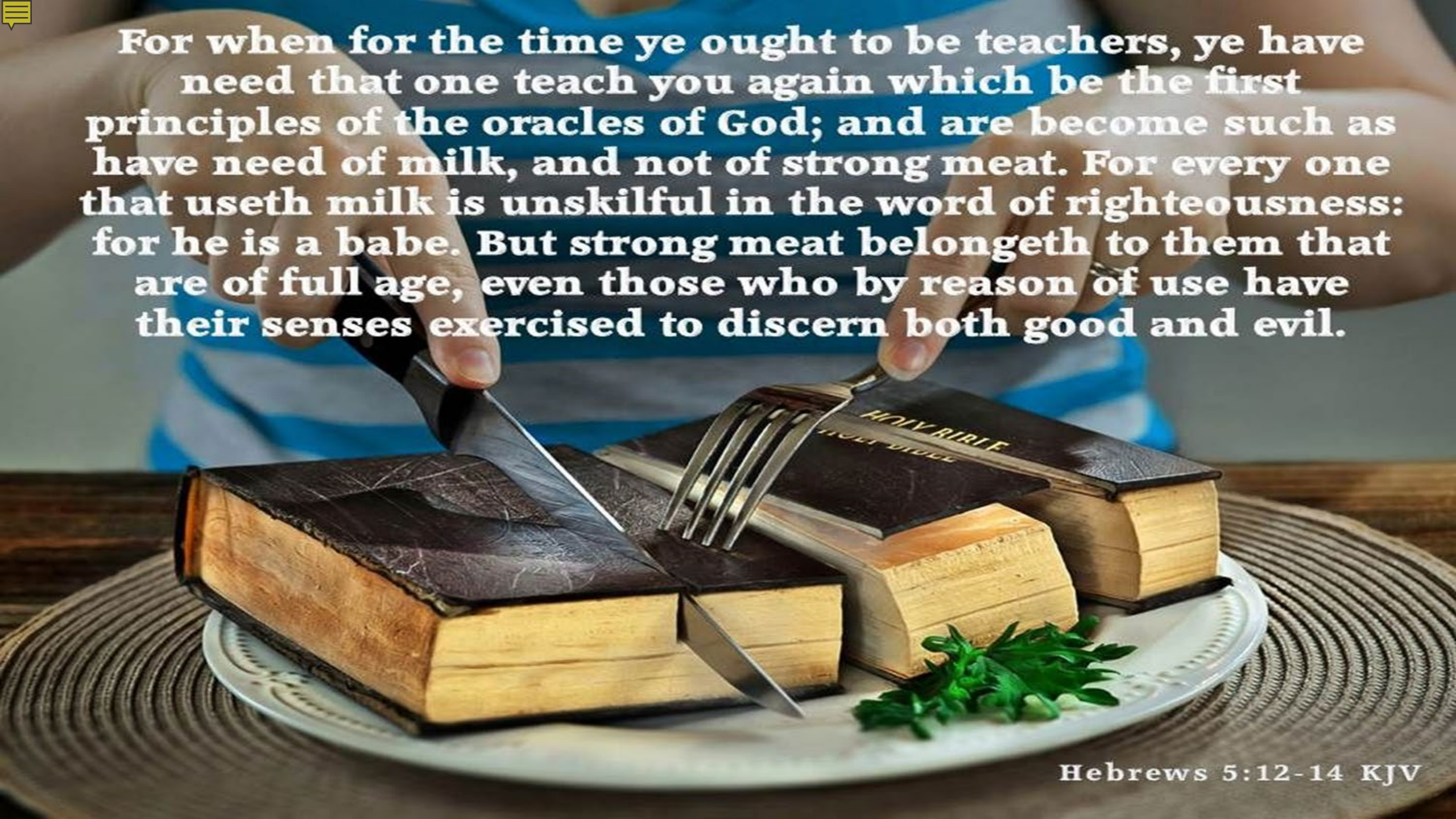
# Failure to Thrive?

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- **Where is Christ in this?**
  - **Am I maturing? More like Jesus?**
  - **What needs to change? Listening**
  - **What am I hungry for?**

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A close-up photograph of a person's hands, wearing a blue and white striped shirt, using a large knife and a fork to cut a thick, old Bible. The Bible is resting on a white plate with a decorative rim, which is placed on a woven placemat. The Bible's pages are yellowed with age, and its dark brown cover is visible. A small sprig of green herbs is on the plate next to the Bible. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the person's shirt.

**For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.**



# AUTOPSY ON A DEAD CHURCH MEMBER

Skull Bone - Too Big.

Nose Bone - Extreme Wear.

Chest Bones - signs of t.b.

Finger bones - Extreme Wear.

Hip Bone - Out of Joint.

Rotten Bones.

Feet Bones - Very Ugly.



Jaw Bone - Extreme Wear.

Neck Bone - Stiff.

Arm Bone - Broken.

Back Bone - Missing.

Tail Bone - Extreme Wear.

Knee Joints - Stiff.



# Slide Title Goes Here

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- First Bullet Point Goes Here
- Second Bullet Point Goes Here
- Third Bullet Point Goes Here

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FOR THOUGH BY THIS  
TIME YOU OUGHT TO BE  
TEACHERS, YOU HAVE  
NEED AGAIN FOR  
SOMEONE TO TEACH YOU  
THE ELEMENTARY  
PRINCIPLES OF THE  
ORACLES OF GOD, AND  
YOU HAVE COME TO  
NEED MILK AND NOT  
SOLID FOOD.

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HEBREWS 5:12



You can't change  
the truth, but  
the truth can  
change you.

Joh.8:32

Heb.5:12-14

Joh.4:24





# The Background...



- The Recipients.
  - It is generally understood to be written to Jewish Christians.
  - It is uncertain as to where they were at the time of the writing.
  - Believed they to be in Palestine and the author in Rome or somewhere in Italy. **13:24**
  - The author knew the recipients personally. **10:34; 13:19**





WHEN WE ARE CALLED TO

GROW  
UP

I'm a **BABY**..  
what's your  
excuse?

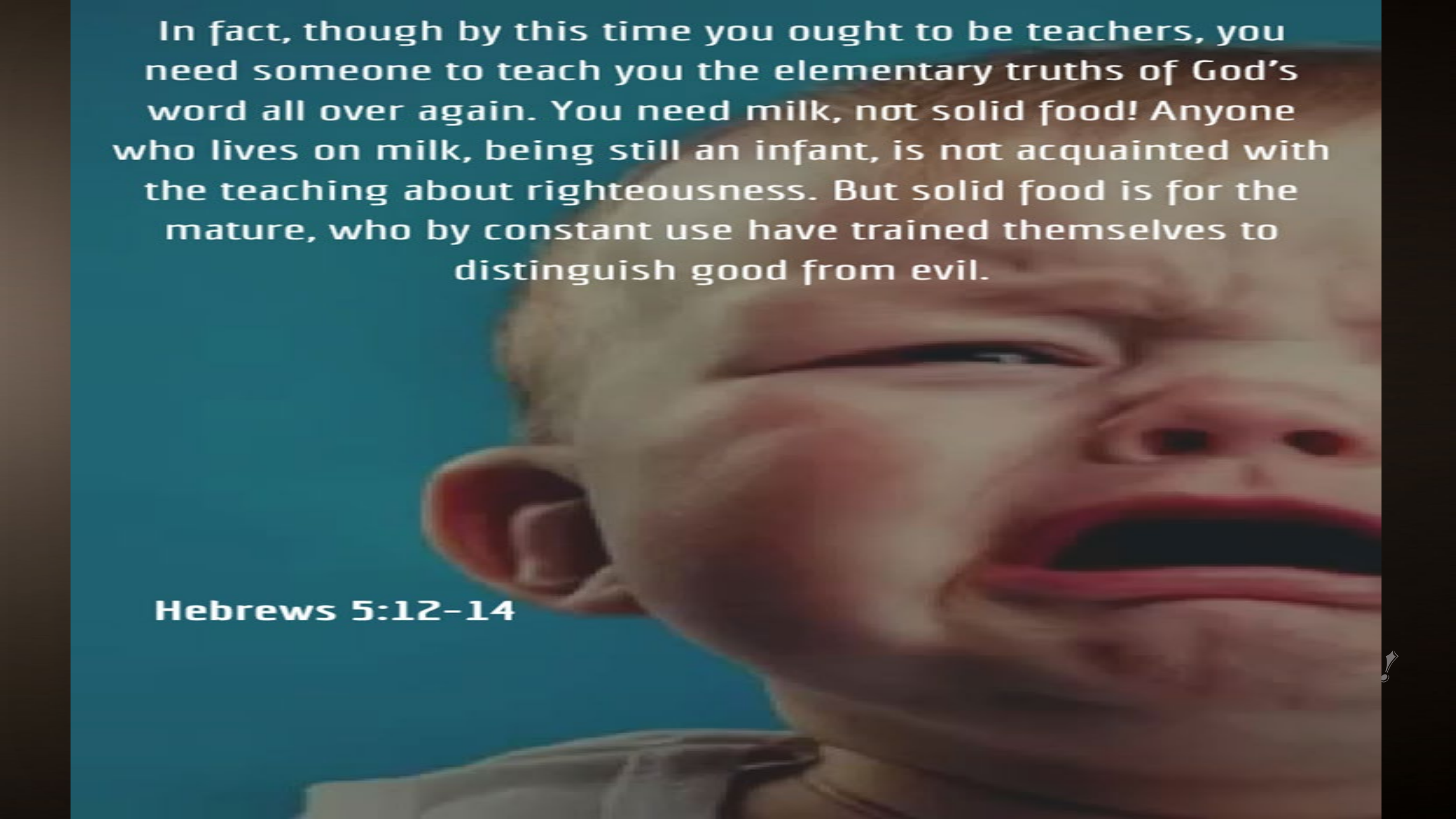


I have a lot to say, but it's hard to get across to you since you.. **DON'T LISTEN!** By now you should be teachers, yet here I am going over the basics on God **AGAIN**. Starting from square one with **BABY'S MILK**, when you should have been on **SOLID FOOD** long ago! **He 5:12-14**



**milk**  
**meat**  
**and**  
**maturity**





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.

**Hebrews 5:12-14**



# Time For A Checkup!

- Just as we need periodical checkups to gauge our physical well being so do we for our **Spiritual** wellness!
- Jesus our great physician will help us.

## **Mark 2:17**

- We note Jesus often saying, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear” ***Mt.11:15; 13:9, 43; Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22***





# Steps To Better Hearing

- Make hearing an act of worship.
  - How you listen to God is as important a devotion to God as how you pray or sing! **Jas. 1:21, 19**
  - Hearing God's word deserves our rapt attention.
- Listen from first to last. **Nehemiah 8:5-9**
  - Pay attention all the way through.
  - Hearers must listen to all the parts to truly understand.





**milk**  
**meat**  
**and**  
**maturity**

