

## Hebrews 6:4-6

### Inoculation and the Word

There is an old saying, "familiarity breeds contempt". It is at least partially true. Familiarity without appreciation breeds contempt. And perhaps nowhere is this more evident than in the gospel inoculated culture in which we live. This culture has so much sprinkling of the Word of God that it does not even recognize when it speaks the truth of God's Word... (out of context though it usually is). In fact, we are so inundated with the truth of God's word that many will attribute things to that word that it never said and which it actually says the opposite. "The Lord helps those who help themselves" is not scriptural but many would attribute it to God's word... the problem is that scripture teaches exactly the opposite. That God helps the weak, the broken the helpless... those who cry for mercy, not those who think they can do it on their own. So where does this false idea come from? It comes from a casual level of contact with the Word. With exposure to the Word without ever taking it in... it creates a level of spiritual truth that

is just enough to harden the heart and mind, rather than enough to soften the soul... it is truly inoculation. It is the act of producing immunity to the truth by frequent, small doses... and it begins with tasting...

## **I. THE ACT OF TASTING**

- A. Limited
- B. Transitory
- C. Experimental
- D. No nutritional value, no real gain
- E. Can draw us into consuming

Psalm 34:8

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

## **II. THE VALUE OF THE WORD**

- A. Truth always works
  - i. Applying the principles of God's word will produce the promised results

- ii. Gravity is a thing
- iii. Treating people as God requires will make your life better

B. Display of God

- i. Shows His attributes
- ii. Shows His work
- iii. Gives His law
- iv. Tells us what He requires of us

Micah 6.6-8

C. Doorway to life

John 6.63 – 68

D. Communication of the Gospel

E. Used of God to bring faith and life

- i. Converting soul

## Psalm 19:7

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

ii. Implanted word

## James 1.21-25

F.Continue, known, learned, wise for salvation  
vs. evil men, imposters, deceiving, deceived

## 2Timothy 3.10-17

### III. OF TASTING AND EATING

This begs the question, what then is the difference between those who gain real value from the word and those who don't? It seems as if they are both exposed to the same truth...

A. Tasting, No Gain

i. Herod

## Mark 6.20

- ii. Judas
- iii. Pharisees

## John 12.42-50

- a. Fear silenced them
- b. False love. ie: pride
- c. Belief is the divide
- d. The word is the judge on the last day
- e. It is the word of God

## B. Eating, Much gain

- i. Grace brings salvation

## Titus 2.11-14

- ii. Mixed with faith

## Hebrews 4.1-2

- iii. Believed and sealed

## Ephesians 1:13

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

iv. Obedience from the heart

Romans 6.17

## IV. RETAINING TRUTH

A. Treasure God's word

Proverbs 7:1 My son, keep my words, And treasure my commands within you.

B. Treasuring up protects against sin and yields good for life

Psalm 119.11

Proverbs 3.1-3

Proverbs 4.20-23

C. Requires diligence, taking heed

Deuteronomy 4. 7-10

D. Use it or lose it

Luke 8.16-18

- i. Take heed how you hear
- ii. Treasure and esteem the word
- iii. Understand that God gives light for the good of the receiver, but also for the good of their circle of influence. Be sure to be faithful with what you have been given...

E. Neglect equals loss

Hebrews 2.1-4

- i. Earnest heed
- ii. Drift
- iii. Neglect

F.Hewing broken cisterns

Jeremiah 2.11-13