

- Valentines Day. Legends about him and Catholics have relics but we don't really know for sure about him. One popular story is that under roman leader Claudius the II, Claudius was having trouble recruiting men to join army because they didn't want to leave their wives so Claudius. No Weddings. Valentine defies order.
- Those that leave the church because the pastor is only giving milk and not solid food.
- In other words, we are mature in our faith and the elementary things you are teaching are like milk and they don't satisfy us spiritual grownups.
- **So the question is what is spiritual milk and what is solid food?**
- Spiritual milk is found in scripture in basically three places. It's in Hebrews that we will talk about today, 1 Peter 2:1-3 and also in 1 Cor. 3:1-3.
- **Now there is reference to milk vs solid food by Paul in 1 Cor. 3:1-3** *Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ. ²I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. ³You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans?*

Who is he talking to here? Believers who don't act like believers. Acting like those who have not embraced Jesus. They might have long ago, but made no progress and still act like they did before they God saved.

- So in that passage, solid food is food for believers living spiritual lives and not fleshly lives. Christians that act like Christians.
- **Milk is for those who don't act spiritually redeemed.** They are worldly. Give em' milk because they live like they aren't Christian.
- **1 Peter 2 it is clearly talking to Christians. "To God's elect, exiles scattered through the provinces."** - *¹So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.*
- **In this it is telling Christians to long for spiritual milk. The Key is Context.**
- **In Hebrews 5:13-14 it is for those who don't know how to distinguish good from evil.**

HEBREWS 5:11-5:14

- Why don't they try to understand? They have heard the truth and mentally believe but haven't made the next right step with God to put faith in Jesus and become a Christian.
- **Elementary truths or first principles** = Ordinances, ceremonies, sacrifices, etc.
- **A babe is a Jew.** Mature ones are Christians.
- **Oracles of God** – Romans 3:2 *"Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God."* "Mosaic Law, the old testament".

Everyone that uses milk is not acquainted = VS 13. Apeiros – means without experience. You haven't experienced righteousness. You're not saved.

- **Nepias** – word for babe means spiritual immaturity or ignorance. Could be either a Christian or non-Christian. In 1 Cor. 3:1-2 the babes there live as if they are not believers.
- Solid food is for those who are mature. Can make decisions about right and wrong. Babies can't do that. We have to make decisions for them.
- **HERE'S THE POINT** - I can't tell you about Melchizedek because you are dull to Christ because you've had opportunity knowing the truth of Christ and haven't been willing to put your faith in Him and now you've grown dull. And this is solid food and you aren't going to understand it.
- **What's the answer?** GROWN UP – EAT SOLID FOOD – GET SAVED!
- **PERFECTION = SALVATION** never mature always salvation. Hebrews 7:11;19
- **Elementary teachings about Christ - Stoicheia** (Greek)

McArthur puts it well – It's referring to ABCs of the Messiah, Picture books before reading real books. OT Pictures. Get past them & get saved.

- **Galatians 3:23-25** *23 Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. 24 So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. 25 Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.*
- **Impossible to repent great controversy. Are these people Christians? Theories:**
 - 1) These are Christians who lost their salvation and can therefore never regain it again. Was used by some in early church to say that there was no possibility of restoration if someone sinned significantly after they had been baptized.
 - 2) This is only a hypothetical warning you can't really lose your salvation. Then why warn someone against something that can't happen?
 - 3) Some say this penalty deals with reward not salvation. It says repentance is impossible not salvation.

I believe this is best understood in the context of the passage, in particular the first 2 verses of the chapter. It means that if these people retreat back to Judaism and the religious Old Testament religious repentance it can never do you any good. Expression of repentance in the Jewish form such as sacrifices, denies the work of Jesus on the cross and is tantamount to agreeing with the crucifiers of Jesus saying Jesus was a liar and his death deserved rather than redemptive.

- **Vs 7-8 two kinds of people. Those who hear the word and become fruitful and a blessing and those that hear the word and they don't make a decision and aren't fruitful and ends up getting burned.**
- **9-12** – Show diligence to the very end so that what you hope for (Salvation) will be realized.