

Hebrews 3:1-4:13

Holding Fast to Christ (pt. 1)

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession;

² He was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was in all His house.

³ For He has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, by just so much as the builder of the house has more honor than the house.

⁴ For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.

⁵ Now Moses was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later;

⁶ but Christ was faithful as a Son over His house—whose house we are, *if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.*

(Hebrews 3:1-6)

⁷ Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says,

“TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,

⁸ DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME,

AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS,

⁹ WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED *Me* BY TESTING *Me*,

AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS.

¹⁰ “THEREFORE I WAS ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION,

AND SAID, ‘THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR

HEART,

AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS’;

¹¹ AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH,

¹² Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.

¹³ But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called “Today,” so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end,

¹⁵ while it is said,

“TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,

DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME.”

¹⁶ For who provoked *Him* when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt *led* by Moses?

¹⁷ And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?

¹⁸ And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient?

¹⁹ So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.

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1. A Past Example

- an entire generation of Israel who experienced much of God and were led by Moses failed to enter God's "rest"
- they failed to enter God's rest because of their hard-hearted unbelief

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2. A Present Warning

- warning to the "brethren" – those who have confessed Jesus as Savior
- beware of falling away from God through unbelief and the deceitfulness of sin

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3. A Useful Remedy

➤ *Mutual encouragement*

- the deceitful nature of sin is what makes mutual encouragement necessary
- this mutual encouragement must be a present, ongoing reality for believers

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Application

"We must humbly and willingly live in intentionally-intrusive, Christ-centered, grace-driven, redemptive community"

(Paul Tripp)