

CONSIDER JESUS...

Hebrews 1—Jesus is greater than the Prophets.

Hebrews 2—Jesus is greater than Angels.

Hebrews 3—Jesus is greater than Moses.

Why Moses?

**Greatest
Of
All
Time**

Hebrews 3:1 “Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling...”

- Written to believers (Heb. 2:11-17) to those who have been sanctified (made holy; set apart); those Jesus was “not ashamed to call brethren.”
- Those who looked beyond an earthly political kingdom to something much greater!

“CONSIDER JESUS...”

- Ø Apostle—“someone sent with a commission or purpose, an Ambassador” (Heb. 2:10-16—the One sent by God “to bring many sons to glory.” See also John 1:18.)
- Ø High Priest of our confession—the One who represents us before God

Heb. 3:2-6 “He (Jesus) was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was in all his house. 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. For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.” Now Moses was faithful in all his house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later; but Christ was faithful as a Son.”

Jesus

- Divine/Human
- Builder of house
- Son over house

Moses

- Human
- Part of the house
- Servant in house

v.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.”

- Whose house we ARE—NOT whose house we WILL BE!
- IF is descriptive, not conditional

Philippians 1:6 “For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.”

Importance of Faithfulness:

1. Quality of Jesus Himself (v.6; 2 Tim. 2:13)
2. Quality of good leadership (Moses) (v.5; 1 Cor.4:12)
3. It is our “Proof of Life.” (Christ living in us) (v.6, 14)
4. It pleases God and increases opportunities! (Matt. 25:21)
5. The world is watching! (Luke 16:10)
6. Unfaithfulness to Jesus can have serious consequences! (vs .7-19)

WARNINGS:

- *Heb. 2:1 “We must pay much closer attention to what we have heard lest we drift away from it.”*
- *Heb. 2:3 “How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?”*
- *Heb. 3:7-8,15 “Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, ‘Do not harden your hearts.’”*
- *Heb. 3:12 “Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in departing/falling away from the living God.”*

Heb. 3:7 “Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, ‘Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as when they provoked Me, as in the day of trial in the wilderness, where your fathers tried Me by testing Me, and saw my works for 40 years.’”

- Quote from Psalm 95 attributed to the Holy Spirit—all scripture is divinely inspired and active! (Heb. 4:12-13). One way we hear God’s voice is through His written word.

- Hearing God’s voice involves an inward leading of the Holy Spirit. *“Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice” (John 18:37).*

- Hearing God’s voice involves a willingness on our part! (Heb. 3:7).

- Harden = *skleruno*—primarily a medical term; “hardening and thickening process that results in the loss of tissue elasticity, lack of sensitivity and/or function.”

- Examples: Scleroderma, Arteriosclerosis, Multiple Sclerosis

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN
HARDENING YOUR HEART?

- Ungrateful/forgetful (Num. 11:6)
- Discontent/grumbling (Num. 11:1,4)
- Proud, stiff-necked, unrepentant (Ps. 78:8)
- Doubted God's word (Deut. 9:23)
- Doubted God's character (Ps. 78:19)

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN
HARDENING YOUR HEART?

- Rebelled against God (Deut. 9:7; Ps. 78:17)
- Refused to walk in His law/disobeyed (Ps. 78:10)
- Unwillingness to trust (Ps. 78:22; Num. 14:1-4, 11)
- Unbelieving (Ps. 78:22)

• ***“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9).***

• ***“Watch over your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life” (Proverbs 4:23).***

v. 8 DAY OF PROVOCATION/TRIAL

Meribah (Testing) and Massah (Quarreling)

- **1st incident**—Exodus 17; at Rephidim, early in wilderness wanderings; Moses told to strike the Rock to bring forth water
- **2nd incident**—Numbers 20; at Kadesh, approximately 40 years later; Moses told to speak to the Rock; instead he struck it twice and forfeited right to enter the promised land.

HEBREWS 3:10-11

“Therefore I was angry with this generation and said, ‘They always do go astray in their heart; and they did not know My ways’; As I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’”

Rest = earthly rest of entering the Promised Land; end to slavery in Egypt, wilderness wanderings; receiving their inheritance; “a land flowing with milk and honey”—blessings, satisfaction, and peace where God would be their God.

HEBREWS 3:12-14

“Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in departing from the living God. But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called ‘Today,’ lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm to the end.”

IN WHAT WAY IS SIN DECEITFUL?

1. Deceitful in what it calls itself. Our nature is to deny, acquit, and redefine.
2. Deceitful in regard to what it promises; seductive nature.
3. Deceitful in how it enslaves us.
4. Deceitful in regard to how it affects our souls; renders us unresponsive to God.

2ND WARNING!!!

*v.12 “Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in **falling away** from the living God.”*

Falling away = *apostani*—from *aphistemi*, “to stand off,” defection, falling away from; forsaking

1 John 2:19 “They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us.”

“And so we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief” (Hebrews 3:19).

- Unbelief = an unwillingness to trust God and take Him at His word; unbelief is that product of an evil, unbelieving heart (v.12); the one sin that prevents a person from receiving the blessings and promises that God offers.

***“Today if you hear His voice,
do not harden your heart.”***