

"Today, if you hear my voice, do not harden your hearts"

Hebrews 3: 7-8, 15

How, when & where do we hear God's voice?
 What does it sound like?
 How do we respond?

Have you experienced hardness of heart in yourself or others?
 One memorable example.

*"Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face,
 And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
 In the light of His glory and grace."*

Hebrews 3 NIV

Jesus Greater Than Moses

3 Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, **fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest.** ² He was **faithful** to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. ³ Jesus has been found worthy of greater honour than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honour than the house itself. ⁴ For every house is built by someone, but **God is the builder of everything.** ⁵ "Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house," bearing witness to what would be spoken by God in the future. ⁶ But **Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house.** And **we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope** in which we glory.

Audience ...

Teaching focus ...

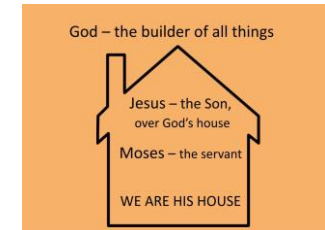
Challenge ...

Jesus is ...

God is ...

Moses was ...

We are ...



The faith we need to keep us from falling away

- A faith for today, no delay in responding, open to God's grace
- Humble hearts, ready to recognise God's truth and obey Him
- Learn from past mistakes, accept correction, seek truth
- Follow Jesus' way as seen in NT, with humility & repentance
- Be watchful - if our hearts go astray, repent and return.
- Find perfect rest in Jesus.

Warning Against Unbelief

⁷ So, as the Holy Spirit says:

**"Today, if you hear his voice,
⁸ do not harden your hearts**

as you did in the rebellion,

during the time of testing in the wilderness,

⁹ where your ancestors tested and tried me,
 though for forty years they saw what I did.

¹⁰ That is why I was angry with that generation;
 I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray,
 and they have not known my ways.'

¹¹ So I declared on oath in my anger,
 'They shall never enter my rest.' "

Hebrews 3: 7-11 (from Psalm 95: 7-11) (cf Ex 17, Nu 13-14)

The urgency of the call

- Listen and respond "today" when we hear God's voice
- Unbelief cuts us off from God's mercy and grace
- Hardness of heart spreads discontent and rebellion against God
- "How shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?" Hebrews 2: 3
- What ungodly outside influences are we exposed to each day?
- How can we stand strong, firm and steadfast in the faith?

¹² See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹⁵ As has just been said:

**"Today, if you hear his voice,
 do not harden your hearts**
 as you did in the rebellion."

¹⁶ Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt? ¹⁷ And with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies perished in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed? ¹⁹ So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.
 Hebrews 3: 12, 15-19

The strength of the fellowship

Encourage = help, comfort, be a paraclete or advocate like Holy Spirit

- Share our concerns in fellowship
- Body of Christ
- Share our faith & pray together
- Sunday service, café, life groups, etc
- Pray & help through times of trial
- Share openly & seek wisdom together

¹³ But **encourage one another daily**, as long as it is called "**Today**," so that **none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness**. ¹⁴ We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end.
Hebrews 3: 13-14

