# Hebrews 3:1-19 Jesus compared to Moses – Warning against Departing from God Jesus compared to Moses

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup> who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house.

<sup>3</sup> For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house. <sup>4</sup> For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God.

<sup>5</sup> And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, 6 but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

# Warning against Hardened Heart and Rebellion - Historic Example

7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:

"Today, if you will hear His voice,

8 Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness,

9 Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years.

<sup>10</sup> Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, 'They always go astray in their heart,

And they have not known My ways.'

11 So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.' " [Hebrews 3:7-11, Psalm 95:7-11]

### Warning against unbelief and departing from God - Exhort One Another

<sup>12</sup> Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; <sup>13</sup> but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

# Security conditioned on Believers Faithfulness - Example of History

<sup>14</sup> For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, <sup>15</sup> while it is said:

"Today, if you will hear His voice, [Hebrews 3:15, Psalm 95:7] Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." [Hebrews 3:15, Psalm 95:8]

16 For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses?17 Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness?

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

19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief. NKJV

Facts Revealed: Jesus compared to Moses [Hebrews 3:1]

- ✤ Christ Jesus is the Apostle (originator) and High Priest of our confession.
  - ☆ The Gospel message originated by Jesus as demonstrated in the previous chapter. [Hebrews 2:2-3]

  - ☆ It was the Blood of Jesus that paid the Atonement price to cover the sins of the world. [Acts 20:28, Hebrews 9:12, 13:12, Revelation 1:5]
- Jesus was faithful to obey the commandments of God His Father, just like Moses who was faithful and obeyed the commandments of God who called him. [Hebrews 3:1-2]
- ✤ Jesus was counted worthy of more Glory than Moses. [Hebrews 3:3]
  - ♦ Jesus, as God the Word, created the World and all in it. [Hebrews 3:4, John 1:1-3]
  - ♦ Moses was used by God as a servant to bring the Children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage and give them the Laws of God.
  - ♦ Paul used the example of a house and its builder, with the builder having more honor than the building.
  - ♦ Moses was faithful as a Servant. [Hebrews 3:5]
  - All that God revealed through Moses, was a testimony of things to come through Jesus Christ, (Righteousness shown in the Law, sinful nature of mankind, Blood Atonement covering the sins of the People, Redemption from slavery to sin and bondage of the devil, providing reconciliation with God resulting in hope of Eternal Life. [Hebrews 3:5, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy]
  - ♦ Jesus was faithful as a Son over His Own house and heir of all things. [Hebrews 1:2, 3:6]
  - ♦ We are the House of Jesus the Son, but that relationship is conditioned upon our commitment to hold fast to the faith which gives us confidence and rejoicing in Hope, but we must remain faithful to the very end. [Hebrews 3:6, 14, 6:11, Matthew 10:22, 24:13, Mark 13:13, Revelation 2:26]

Warning against Hardened Heart and Rebellion – Historic Example [Hebrews 3:7-11]

7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:

"Today, if you will hear His voice,

8 Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness,9 Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years.

<sup>10</sup> Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, 'They always go astray in their heart,

And they have not known My ways.'

- 11 So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.' " [Hebrews 3:7-11, Psalm 95:7-11]
- The warning against our failure to continue faithfully in obedience to the Gospel message, and Hard Hearted Rebellion, is a direct quote of the text of the Psalm.
  - $\diamond$  The danger continues throughout the Church age, and its consequence is dreadful.
  - ♦ The command is given to believers, and clearly demonstrates that Christians are in danger of following the same tendencies of human nature displayed by the Children of Israel in their historical record.
  - ♦ History of Israel becomes an example for the believer today and indicates that it is very possible for a man to loose his saving faith through hard-hearted rebellion.
  - $\diamond$  The controlling factor is the <u>choice</u> of the individual.
  - ☆ If we choose to believe false doctrine that creeps into the Church by false teachers from their midst, we can easily be led astray to our own destruction, where we will inherit wrath and judgment of God, instead of Salvation and the Kingdom of Heaven.

- $\diamond$  Thus we are warned continually to be on guard against the deceivers of the last days.
- The only way to discern false doctrine as it comes along, is by knowing the Scriptures for ourselves. When we know the truth of Scripture, we can then identify false doctrine when it comes along.
- $\diamond$  There is no value in ignorance of Scripture.

Warning against unbelief and departing from God – Exhort One Another [Hebrews 3:12-13]

- Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. [Hebrews 3:12-13]
  - $\diamond$  The message is to "Brethren" who are a part of the Church and counted among the saved.
  - ♦ The danger is an evil heart of unbelief which leads the individual to depart from the Living God.
  - ♦ The fact is that our choice is involved, and therefore we are able to control whether we accept or reject the tendency to believe the truth, or turn aside to error.
  - ♦ Therefore we are commanded to exhort (earnestly advise, warn) one another daily, because the threat never ceases, the devil is extremely persistent.
  - ♦ The danger is that we may be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin, lured, and enticed to turn to error, and believe the lie.

### Security conditioned on Believers Faithfulness – Example of History [Hebrews 3:14-19]

✤ For we have become partakers of Christ <u>if we hold the beginning of our confidence</u> <u>steadfast to the end</u>, while it is said:

> "Today, if you will hear His voice, [Hebrews 3:15, Psalm 95:7] Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." [Hebrews 3:15, Psalm 95:8]

- ♦ The Israelites who heard the commandments of God, and received the Law of God, were the people who witnessed first hand the miracles God had done to provide their deliverance from Egypt, but they rebelled when commanded to take their inheritance and possess it.
- ☆ Therefore they spent 40 years in the Wilderness, until all that generation 20 years old and above had died in the wilderness except Joshua and Caleb who stood firm in belief.
- ♦ They lost their Promised Inheritance, because of unbelief, doubting that God would deliver the great and mighty nations of Canaan into their hands and give them the land.
- ♦ This experience of Israel becomes and example to the Church today, by demonstrating to believers that if they let circumstances cause them to fall into similar disbelief, they will lose their right to the promised Salvation provided through Jesus Christ.
- ☆ As the generation who disobeyed God and died in the Wilderness, even so Christians who disobey the Gospel message will lose their right of Salvation and their place in the Kingdom of Heaven.
- $\diamond$  The danger is great, the warning is sure, the choice is ours to make.
- ♦ Carefully guard yourself against falling into error. Learn the Scriptural message, discern truth from error, and cling faithfully to what is true to the very end. Your eternal destiny is at hazard.
- ♦ Do not allow yourself to be deceived by sin or false doctrine introduced by persuasive false teachers.