

## Continue to Believe 2020-11-15

### Hebrews 3:12-15

*Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. 13 But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.*

*14 For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. 15 As it is said, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."*

Learn from others mistakes...air wrench.

- Holy Spirit uses failure of Israel in wilderness to warn/teach Hebrews/us.
- To persevere: avoid unbelieving heart and regularly encourage each other.

### Hebrews 3:6-11

Hebrews 3:7-4:13 commentary on David's Psalm 95:7-11 describing Exodus 17

- Saw many examples/miracles of God keeping His word to meet all their needs yet complained/rebelled when life hard/trials hit.
  - Unbelief in face of overwhelming evidence.
    - unbelief never enough proof.
  - hearts hardened, stopped trusting God and looked for hope in Egypt, to their bondage/slavery/sin.

Genuine believers will hold fast their faith in times of trial. Hebrews 3:14

- hold fast not keep from losing salvation but demonstrates/evidence/verifies truly Christian.
  - May go through times of doubt/sin but don't remain there.
    - If turn back to world and content to stay there, never really Christian.
  - Saving faith, by its very nature, perseveres but not effortless or automatic.
    - true Christian vigilant and examines self. Hebrews 3:12-13, 2 Corinthians 13:5a, Proverbs 4:23

To persevere: avoid root of all sins, an unbelieving, heart. Genesis 3:1

- Trials seem negate promise meet their needs so not believe God faithful.

Unbelief deceives: calls darkness/light, bondage/liberty; wrong/right.

- That to disobey is more secure/pleasurable than obey.
  - sin way out of problems and get what want and obey God deprive of want.
    - ...i.e. single/lonely no godly so date nice unbeliever

As continue to sin, heart becomes more deceived and harder.

- Like calluses, unbelief numbs sensitivity to Holy Spirit promptings/conviction.

Examine self TODAY: not 24 hours, present time of grace. Hebrews 3:15,

- Submit hearts to God's Word/ways, especially during trials.
- Deal w/thought life to stop unbelief/sin at root.

- Repent when convicted by Holy Spirit and by God's grace obey His Word.
- Trust in God, take Him at His word, submit to Him and will enter His rest.

To persevere, regularly encourage others to continue to believe God's promises, power, providence, Gospel, and walk by faith not sight. Hebrews 3:13, 2 Peter 1:10

- Christian life sometimes is a wilderness. Need one another.
  - COVID/contentious election, endurance turned into weariness.
- Be proactive with exhortation rather than just reactive if see spiritual dangers. Trials in Christian life force to ask self, "Where my faith/hope/trust/treasure?"
- difficult burden/hurt tempted believe Jesus not care/help.
- To persevere, avoid unbelief; practice encouragement; keep eyes on Jesus.
  - His faithfulness/power will preserve your faith/hope...He will finish what He began. Philippians 1:6, 2:12-13