

Hebrews 3

Review

- What do we know about the background of *Hebrews*?
- Theories for authorship?
- Theme? Keeping Jewish Christians faithful

Review of Hebrews 1

- What is said of Jesus in *Hebrews 1:1-4*? God has now spoken through Jesus
- How do we know the angels are subject to Christ?
- None were His sons
- Angels praised Christ at birth
- Angels do not sit at right hand of God's throne
- Purpose of angels? Ministering spirits

Review of Hebrews 2

V 1 - How can we drift away? By not paying attention

V 2 - In the Old Testament, did people receive punishment for their sins? Yes, "just recompense"

V 3 - How was the word confirmed in the First Century? Signs...

V 5-8 - Not even the world was subject to angels – that power was given to humans

V 9-10 - One purpose for the death of Jesus? That He might taste death

V 15-18 - How are people slaves to death? Read *Hebrews 2.17-18*

- Theme of *Hebrews 1-2*? Jesus is better than angels

Hebrews 3.1-6

V 1 – What are the great things that Moses did? Miracles of Egypt, crossing the Red Sea, events in Sinai, leading Israel to the Jordan River

- Describe the death of Moses: Read *Deuteronomy 34:5-6*

- What titles were given to Jesus? Apostle (in sense of ambassador) and the High Priest of Our Confession

V 2 – Were both Moses and Jesus faithful? Yes

V 3 – But who deserves the more glory: the architect or the house? The architect

V 4 – Who built all things? God

- What are the implications of this to the universe we live in? It was not created by a giant explosion, but by the hand of God
- This verse also speaks of God as the great designer of all things

V 5 – The job of Moses? To carry on the faith

V 6 – Whose house? Christ's

-Therefore Jesus is in charge of his own house

-**Who compose the house?** Christians

-**Is it possible to get out of the house?** Yes – that is the whole theme of *Hebrews*

-The First Century Jewish Christians were drifting away from the "house" of Christ

-We are not unconditionally secure as Christians, contrary to the teachings of almost all protestant and evangelical churches today

Hebrews 3.7-11

V 7- 8 – Quote from *Psalm 95*

-**Did the Jews accept Moses at first?** Yes, but it was only temporary

-**Did they remain faithful?** No

V 9 – **How did they test God?** They sent spies into Canaan, but rejected the testimony of the two faithful spies

-Remember *Numbers 13*, *Psalm 95*, and the 10 spies – the people were afraid to go ahead

-God made them stay in Sinai for forty years and die there

-**Theme of vs. 7-11?** “Don’t reject Jesus just as you fathers rejected Moses”

-They fell away and were punished

-See *Matthew 5:10-13* and *Acts 7:51-53*

V 10 – **What was the attitude of God when the Jews rejected him and his servant Moses?** He was angry with them

V 11 – **What was his punishment for them?** They were not allowed to enter his rest in the Promised Land, but died in the wilderness

Hebrews 3.12- 19

V 12 – **Why take care?** Many will fall away

-Remember *Hebrews 2:1*

V 13 – **How are we to keep from falling away?** By encouraging each other

-**How do we encourage each other?** By our example and our words

-**How is sin deceitful?** It promises what it cannot deliver (happiness, power, money, etc.)

V 14 – Danger of falling away

-**How long do we have to remain faithful?** Until the end of our lives

-**Do we know those who were faithful at one time, but did not remain faithful to the end?** Yes, every congregation can think of people like that

V 15 – **When should we make sure that our hearts are not hardening toward God?** Today and every day

V 16 – **Who provoked God?** The very people the First Century Jews were honoring (those who left Egypt with Moses)

V 17 – **What happened to them?** They died in the wilderness

V 18 – **What was their basic sin?** They were disobedient to God

V 19 – **Conclusion?** It is incredible that Satan has convinced so many people claiming to be Christians that they cannot fall away
-Haven't they ever read the book of *Hebrews*?

Revised 2013-01-26