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 ALL SCRIPTURES ARE PRINTED VERBATIM WITH TRANSLATIONS NOTED • CHAIR BIBLE PAGE # 170 (NT SECTION)

A. Introduction

1. This is the second “Warning Passage” in Hebrews.
2. The first “Warning Passage” was in Hebrews 2:1-4, “Don’t drift away!”
3. Last week, we learned that Jesus is greater than Moses.
4. This passage is a quote from Psalm 95:7-11.
5. Numbers 13-14 is alluded to in this Psalm. (Kadesh-Barnea*)
6. This is the longest of the five “Warning Passages.”
7. The basic warning is, “Do not harden your hearts.”
8. The antidote to a hard heart is, “Hear God’s Word; Heed God’s Word.”



B. Study Section

Holy Scriptures are printed in the bold face font while Pastor Joe’s Commentary is printed in the brackets.

Hebrews 3:7-11, NLT -⁷ That is why the Holy Spirit says, **“Today when you hear his voice, ⁸ don’t harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled, when they tested me in the wilderness. ⁹ There your ancestors tested and tried my patience, even though they saw my miracles for forty years. ¹⁰ So I was angry with them, and I said, ‘Their hearts always turn away from me. They refuse to do what I tell them.’ ¹¹ So in my anger I took an oath: ‘They will never enter my place of rest.’”**

Key Words and Phrases in This Passage

“Today” (lit., *now*) – Hear the urgency in this word; we are never prompted to “Get right with God’ tomorrow.”

“Do not harden your heart” – Hear and obey! We harden our hearts in different ways:

- Some harden their hearts by relapsing into their old indifference.
- Some harden their hearts by unbelief.
- Some harden their hearts by asking for more signs.
- Some harden their hearts by presuming upon the mercy of God.

Hard hearts can be the result of disobedience, rebellion, lack of trust, neglect of worship, refusal to submit, paralysis from ministry, being hurt by someone, being attacked by Satan and/or ungratefulness for what God has done for us. (Wuest Word Studies)

“Rebelled” – (lit., *provoked*) This word is used only three times in the NT and all three times, it is used in this chapter (vv. 8, 15, and 16).

“Angry” – The Greek word is typically translated “incensed.”

“Turn away from me.” – (Lit., *apostasize*) This word “apostate” is used only one time in the NT—here is v. 10. It’s the complete turning away from God and faith. *It’s following your will, not God’s will.*

“They refused to do what I tell them” – The picture here is of passivity. God said, “Go;” they said, “No!”

“Rest” – The Talmud speaks of three Hebrew meanings of “rest.”

- Canaan Rest – Peace in time of trouble with enemies all around.
- Sabbath Rest – A day completely off each week / celebration.
- Final Rest – A future, permanent, heavenly rest.

“Canaan Rest is the calm we experience through submission as we claim the promises of God though surrounded by those hostile to us.” Talmuda de-Eretz Yisrael, Shabbat, פסוק ל, ז.