

Hebrews 3:7-19 “Unbelief’s Bitter Fruit”

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Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, 'They always go astray in [their] heart, And they have not known My ways.' So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.' " (Hebrews 3:7-11 NKJV)

God does not merely speak once to start the Christian life—He speaks continually to sustain it.
Delayed obedience is often disguised unbelief.

Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, 'They always go astray in [their] heart, And they have not known My ways.' So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.' " (Hebrews 3:9-11 NKJV)

Because miracles don't change hearts. Faith changes hearts.

You can be impressed by God's works and still resist God's voice.

Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; (Hebrews 3:12 NKJV)

This is the center of gravity in this whole passage.

But when some were hardened and did not believe, but spoke evil of the Way before the multitude, he departed from them and withdrew the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus. (Acts 19:9 NKJV)

Does Scripture warn believers about the danger of turning away from God through unbelief?

Unbelief is not merely a lack of information—it's often a refusal of surrender.

but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:13 NKJV)

The Christian life is not a solo hike; it's a family pilgrimage.

For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, (Hebrews 3:14 NKJV)

For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, (Philippians 3:3 NKJV)

Saving faith isn't proved by never falling—it's proved by never letting go of Jesus.

while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." (Hebrews 3:15 NKJV)

The Spirit repeats Himself.

For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, [was it] not all who came out of Egypt, [led] by Moses? Now with whom was He angry forty years? [Was it] not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? (Hebrews 3:16-18 NKJV)

They were delivered from slavery, but they didn't enter rest.

So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief. (Hebrews 3:19 NKJV)

Unbelief kept them from what God promised.

For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: "In returning and rest you shall be saved; In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." But you would not, (Isaiah 30:15 NKJV)

The opposite of faith isn't failure—it's refusing to trust God's promise.

Don't confuse doubts with unbelief: Watch the slow hardening: Stay close to the bod.