

Review:

- 1) Remember – this book is about Jewish believers being persecuted to the degree that they were considering going **back to Judaism**
- 2) So the writer had to prove that Jesus is better than the **prophets**
- 3) Jesus is better than the **angels**
- 4) Now it's – Jesus is better than **Moses**
- 5) V.1 is a key verse to this portion of Scripture

V.1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, **consider Jesus**, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession.

V.2 He was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was in all His house.

V.3 For He has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, by just so much as the builder of the house has more honor than the house.

V.4 For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.

V.5 Now Moses was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later;

V.6 but Christ *was faithful* as a Son over His house whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.

V.7 Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, " TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,

V.8 DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME, AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS,

V.9 WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED *Me* BY TESTING *Me*, AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS.

V.10 " THEREFORE I WAS ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION, AND SAID, 'THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART; AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS';

V.11 AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, 'THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.'"

V.12 Take care, brethren, lest *there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in falling away from the living God.*

1) "Take care, brethren"

a) This is a **stern warning**

b) Same exact wording in **Phil.3:2**

Phil.3:2 Beware of the dogs, **beware** of the evil workers, **beware** of the false circumcision;

c) **Who** is the stern **warning for??**

1) "Take care, brethren"

a) Look again at who he is writing to – "**Brethren**"

b) **Brethren** – He is talking to **Christians**

i) Can an unbelieving heart belong to a Christian? YES!

V.12 x Take care, brethren, lest *there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart*, in *falling away from the living God*.

2) "lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart"

a) **Faith** is the **sphere / domain** we are to operate in

b) We are to live in that domain – we walk w/ God

Rom.1:17 For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, " BUT **THE RIGHTEOUS man** SHALL LIVE BY FAITH. "(quote from Hab.2:4)

Gal.3:11 Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, " THE RIGHTEOUS MAN **SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.**"

Heb.10:38 BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE **BY FAITH**; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.

c) **Unbelief chokes out** our relationship w/ God

3) "in falling away from the living God"

a) "Falling away" – word "**to stand**" w/ an "**alpha**" – makes it **negative**

b) What the children of Israel **saw** w/ their **physical eyes** turned them away from what they should have seen w/ their **spiritual eyes**

c) What they saw w/ **physical eyes** was **more real** than what they could see w/ **spiritual eyes**

d) They did **not believe** God's Word – is "falling away"

i) It is **described** in Mark 4

Mk.4:2 He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said:

3 "Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed.

4 As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up.

5 Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow.

6 But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain.

8 Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times."

ii) Christ interprets:

Mk.4:14 (NP)

Mk.4:14 (NIV) The farmer sows the word.

15 Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them.^(Lost)

16 Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy.

17 But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

18 Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word;

19 but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and **choke** the word, making it **unfruitful**.

20 Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop--thirty, sixty or even a hundred times what was sown."

- e) **Who's responsibility** is it that you know His Word? **Yours!**
- f) If you are in a church where you are not getting the Word – leave!

- g) How do we battle against unbelief? **V.13**

V.13 But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

- 1) "encourage one another day after day"
 - a) "encourage" is made of 2 words
 - b) **#1.** Beside / near– **#2.** To call = To call alongside
 - c) Checking on someone else – encouraging them in their walk
 - i) Some of you can't imagine investing in someone else that much or someone investing in you!

- 2) "as long as it is *still* called "Today"
 - a) **NOW** is the time to act! You just have today
 - i) Don't wait **until you retire** – more **convenient**
 - ii) You are to be **concerned** for the welfare of other **believers**

Phil.2:1 If therefore there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion,
2 make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

V.3 (NP)

V.3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself;

4 do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

***God's economy is the opposite of the world**

***These are not just words**

V.13 x But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," lest any one of you *be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.*

3) "lest...you...be **hardened** by the **deceitfulness of sin**"

a) **What is the deceitfulness of sin?**

b) It is to believe that a **small sin** doesn't **matter that much**

i) **Sin is never – inert – inactive – dormant**

c) We tend to look at **big sins** & stay away from those: **Murder – adultery – theft**

i) We ignore **little sins** of: **Worry – envy – gossip**

d) It is **ignorance of God's Word** ruins our walk w/ God

e) **Not believing God's Word causes** you to **sin** when you wouldn't otherwise sin

i) Example;

ii) **Eve sinned** thinking she was doing the **right** thing!

V.14 For *we have become partakers of Christ,* if *we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end;*

1) "we have become partakers of Christ"

a) Word is only used one time in Scripture outside of Hebrews

i) Speaks of a partnership

ii) It has to do w/ camaraderie

Lk.5:7 and they signaled to their **partners** in the other boat, for them to come and help them. And they came, and filled both of the boats, so that they began to sink.

2) "if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end"

a) This **whole section** is **about living life** as believers should live it

b) Being a **partner** w/ Christ thru life

c) It has **nothing to do w/ salvation**

d) It has **nothing to do w/ works proving salvation** – look at the **context** of the verse

i) **Where** was salvation **alluded to** in this passage? **Nowhere!**

- e) God led Israel to the banks of the Jordan River
- f) They were supposed to cross the river & go into Canaan
- g) Canaan doesn't represent Heaven – It represents the life of rest / Spirit filled life

V.15 while it is said, " TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME."

- 1) "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS"
 - a) Today is your day
 - b) Israel did **n't believe** God when He spoke to them
 - c) **What would life look like** if you simply **trusted God** for the things HE has said

V.16 For who provoked Him when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt led by Moses?

- 1) "who provoked *Him* when they...heard...did not all...who came out...Egypt"
 - a) **Israel saw His wonders** – they **applied blood** to their **door post** – and **left Egypt**
 - b) But they did **n't learn** from past experiences
 - c) They did **n't have faith** to **continue** to believe God – angered Him
 - d) It is a **walk of faith** to live daily for Christ
 - e) Apostle Paul **defined Christian walk** to Colossians
Col.2:6 x As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk in Him,
7 having been firmly rooted *and now* being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, *and* overflowing with gratitude.

V.17 And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?

- 1) "whose bodies fell in the wilderness"
 - a) The children who saw the most miracles of any single group lived their entire lives in the wrong place!
 - b) Two men out of maybe 1 million lived right way

V.18 And to whom did He swear that they should not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient?

V.19 And so we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.

- 1) "to whom did He swear that they should **not enter His rest**"
 - a) God has called on us to find our rest in Him

b) Do you know what **robs most of us** of our **joy** – **unbelief** – not taking God at His word

c) **What does taking God at His Word look like?**

1 Pet.1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

6 In this you **greatly** rejoice, even though **now** for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,

7 that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

d) That is what resting in Christ looks like

e) Let's be careful that we don't miss it! **4:1**

4:1 Therefore, let us fear lest, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you should seem to have come short of it.

1) "Therefore, let us fear"

a) There are **things** we are to **remember**

b) There are **things** we are to **forget**

c) There are **things** we are **not to be afraid of**

i) WE are told to **not fear** what men can do to us

ii) We are told **not to fear** the future

iii) We are told that **perfect love cast** out all fear

iv) **But** we are told **to fear** – not entering into His rest!

v) That we are to fear!

vi) With that in mind – I close w/ this admonition

1 Thes.5:16 (NP)

1 Thes.5:16 Rejoice always;
17 pray without ceasing;
18 in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
19 Do not quench the Spirit;
20 do not despise prophetic utterances.
21 But examine everything *carefully*; hold fast to that which is good;
22 abstain from every form of evil.
23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
24 Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.