



JESUS

Up **C**lose and **P**ersonal

A Study of Hebrews | The Pastors' Bible Study 2013-2014

Introduction to Hebrews October 9, 2013

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Hebrews 3:1-11 (NASB)

³ Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession; ² He was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was in all His house. 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. ⁴ For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God. ⁵ Now Moses was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later; 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.

⁷ Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says,

“TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, ⁸ DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME, AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS, ⁹ WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED Me BY TESTING Me, AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS. ¹⁰ “THEREFORE I WAS ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION, AND SAID, ‘THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART, AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS’; ¹¹ AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, ‘THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.’”

Reflection Questions

1. The author begins by calling the recipients *holy brethren*. How do you understand each word? What does it mean for you to be *holy*? To be *brethren*? How have you experienced these words in your own life?
2. The recipients are also asked to *consider Jesus*. This means to give serious thought to something; to consider the matter as having great importance and relevance. In what ways have you considered Jesus?
3. Jesus is lifted up as being faithful to God and worthy of more glory than Moses. Some might say there are many pseudo-Messiahs in today's world. In what ways is Jesus superior to these?
4. Verse four says that *the builder of all things is God*. In what ways have you found this to be true? What does this reveal about God's work in the world?
5. Having lifted up Jesus as being superior, the author moves to a word of caution in verse 6 as the recipients are urged to *hold fast*. This is essentially a call to remain devoted and faithful to Jesus. What are some ways you *hold fast* to Jesus? What things make holding fast difficult?
6. Verses 7-11 contain statements from the Old Testament that center on the issue of *hardness of heart*. What things can make a person's heart hard toward God? How have you encountered this? Are there areas of your heart that are hard?