

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

FEBRUARY 2ND, 2025 // HEBREWS

MORE (HEBREWS 3:1-6) THEREFORE

In Chapter 1 we were introduced to the superiority of Jesus. Then, in Chapter 2, “for this reason,” we must pay attention to what we have heard: Jesus is our salvation. He has defeated death, the fear of death, and the Devil!

- **Therefore, we should consider Jesus' authority and how much glory and honor we give to Him.**

HOLY BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Like Ch. 2, we are unashamedly called brothers and sisters. This time we are also called holy. This holiness isn't achieved by our actions, it only comes through sacrifice. We are holy based on the sacrifice Christ offered on our behalf.

- **Are we living in unity as “holy brothers and sisters?” We will, if Christ is the center of our lives.**

HEAVENLY CALLING

This is God's purpose for His children. He has rescued us and makes us what we are. Again, we do not transform ourselves into something and then become God's people, God transforms us into His people.

- **Good does not equal holy. The blood of Christ cleanses us and makes us holy. There are no “holy” unbelievers.**

CONSIDER JESUS

The writer calls us to remember that Jesus is the heart of Christianity and that thinking about who He is and what He has done is the best way to know Him more.

- **Caution: considering Jesus outside of biblical and theological context is dangerous. We must think of Christ according to how Scripture reveals His character.**

CONSIDER MOSES

The writer knows his audience; that they immersed themselves in OT scriptures and had great reverence for their major historical figures like Moses.

- **Moses' legacy of ministry was delivering the law (the old covenant) to Israel. Moses was a servant but Jesus is the builder. Jesus is more worthy of reverence, honor, glory, and praise.**

POSITION IN THE HOUSEHOLD

As a servant, Moses' legacy (the law) would be a testimony of the superiority of Christ. As we study Hebrews, we will see that the entire Old Testament is an arrow pointing to the coming Messiah.

- **We, and Moses, are the household (servants in the Church). Christ is the Creator and Savior of the House.**

CONFIDENCE

Hebrews 3:6 emphasizes that God's people must remain confident and hopeful. While Hebrews affirms Christ's sufficiency for salvation, it also stresses the importance of persevering in faith. **Scripture teaches that true faith will endure, and the Church is made up of Believers with lasting, authentic faith.**

HOPE

Salvation depends on Christ alone, not on our works. Believers are called to hold on to their confidence in the gospel and boast in Christ, not in their own efforts. **True faith endures, trusting in Christ's righteousness as our hope and assurance.** The writer highlights this confidence and hope but shares a warning.

THE BAD EXAMPLE (HEBREWS 3:7-11) AS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYS

Again, the writer teaches us that God is the author of Scripture and that it is a living message. Although recorded long ago, these are living words.

- **When we hear, read, study or encounter the Bible in any way, we can be confident that God is speaking to us!**

PSALM 95

We just read from Psalm 95 about how the people of Israel stopped listening to God and chose their own path.

- **God speaks to us through His word. He speaks in order to save His people. If we hear His voice today, we have decisions to make.**

PRESUMED GRACE

God delivered, preserved, provided for, and guided Israel through the desert but they thought they could turn their hearts away from Him and still have rest.

- **Rest is usually a sense of safety and security. Hebrews 4 will teach us that Jesus Christ is our rest. Showing up and presuming that association with His people will save us is a lie. Only faithful surrender to Christ will save us. Authenticity matters!**

HOLD FIRM (HEBREWS 3:12-19) THE PROBLEM

Israel had “evil, unbelieving heart[s]” that set them on the path that led away from God. That path eventually leads to a hardened heart that leads down another path of denial of God and rejecting the grace of Christ.

- **We should check our hearts and make sure we are not on that hard-hearted path.**

THE REMEDY

Christians should “encourage each other daily.” We should teach each other in wisdom, through psalms, songs, and the Holy Spirit (Colossians 3:16). As we are immersed in authentic worship, community, and service, we see “evil, unbelieving heart[s]” come face to face with Christ.

- **Hard hearts reject Jesus. Surrendered hearts come close to, and embrace Christ.**

THE REALITY

This is not a passage about losing faith or fearing that we have not done the right thing. The author validates God's role in our salvation because we cannot keep ourselves.

- **Believers hold firmly to the salvation they received because God did all the work. Our faith, confidence, and hope are all in Him. The hard question is: are we drifting and presuming something that isn't ours?**

IN THE HOUSE

- The Church is the Household of God.
- **Christ created the Church, sustains the Church, and conforms the Church.**
- **The confidence and hope that we hold on to is not because we are good at being the Church, it is because Christ is the superior Church builder.**

READY TO REST

- The world has made us tired.
- **Authentic faith leads to rest.**
- **We can find peace and security knowing that Christ has paid our debts. The best rest is knowing Christ (our brother, our savior) hears us today and gives confidence and hope in Him.**

WHAT DO YOU HEAR?

- God speaks through the Bible.
- **If you read it, you have heard Him.**
- **God does all the work, but we are still responsible for our response. Attending, hearing, even listening, is not enough. We must obey Him or we face the fatal error of unbelief. DO WE BELIEVE? If we do, we will follow Him.**