

PERSEVERANCE IN CHRIST

A STUDY IN HEBREWS



I BELIEVE!

CHRIST is ...

The SON (greater than the angels)!

Our BROTHER (greater than Moses)!

The FOUNDER of the salvation
to which all the OT points!

WARNINGS ...?

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What tempts one who “self-identifies as belonging to Christ” to “neglect” what they are being called to in Christ?

EXTRACTING UNBELIEF

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- I. The PRESENCE of Unbelief – v6-14 (in the gathered body)
 - The danger and the defense
- II. The POWER of Unbelief – v15-19 (in the gathered body)
- III. EXTRACTING our Unbelief –
 - Identify + Confess + Replace

PRESENCE
of
UNBELIEF

Faith!
Unbelief?

PRESENCE of Unbelief ...

(Hebrews 3:6-14)



HEBREWS 3:6 ... Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, **if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope ...**

Holding fast or holding loosely ...?

PRESENCE of Unbelief ...

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PHILIPPIANS 3:13f ... *I do not consider that I have made it (righteousness of God) my own. But one thing I do: **forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.***

PRESENCE of Unbelief ...

(Hebrews 3:6-14)



HEBREWS 3:7f ... therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. Therefore, I was provoked with that generation, and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.’ As I swore in my wrath, ‘They shall not enter my rest’” ...

PSALM 95 – a preparation of the heart for worship that recalls the perils of the “wilderness generation”

The ROOT of UNBELIEF ...?

PSALM 95:7-9 ... *for He is our God, we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work ...*

EXODUS 17:2 ... thirst leads to grumbling, accusations, and quarreling at Meribah as the people “put God to the test”

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NUMBERS 14 ... refusal to enter the Promised Land because they trust their “feelings” more than they trust God’s words!

The ROOT of UNBELIEF ...?

NUMBERS 14:2f ... *all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt ... or in this wilderness!*

Why is the Lord bringing us into this land ... to fall by the sword?

Our wives and our little ones will become a prey ...

Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt? ... Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt!"

The LIE of SUPERIOR HAPPINESS ...?

A better REST ...?

A better GOD ...?

The ROOT of UNBELIEF ...?

NUMBERS 14:40f ... *they rose early ... and went up to the heights of the hill country, saying, “Here we are. We will go up to the place that the Lord has promised, for we have sinned.”* But Moses said, *“Why now are you transgressing the command of the Lord, when that will not succeed? Do not go up, for the Lord is not among you, lest you be struck down before your enemies ...*

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UNBELIEF = DENYING the GOODNESS of GOD and the completeness of His Salvation!

His word. His ways. His timing.
His Rest. His Salvation.

PRESENCE of Unbelief ...

(Hebrews 3:6-14)



HEBREWS 3:12f ... take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.

But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.

The WARNING is REAL – unbelief is an evil!

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Our HOPE is COMMUNAL – “exhort” one another!

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We SHARE in CHRIST – our “original” confidence!

POWER
of
UNBELIEF

Faith!
Unbelief?

POWER of Unbelief ...

(Hebrews 3:15-19)



HEBREWS 3:15f ... as it is said, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.” For **who were those who heard and yet rebelled?** Was it not all **those who left Egypt led by Moses?** And with whom was he provoked for 40 years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? **So, we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief ...**

MIRACLES lack the POWER to drive out UNBELIEF

EXTRACTING
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This is a WARNING!

This is not a FINAL JUDGMENT!

EXTRACTING Unbelief ...



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Be ENCOURAGED – there is a road back to new life in CHRIST!

Be WARNED – the road leads where you won't feel like going!

EXTRACTING Unbelief ...



HEBREWS 3:13 ... exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Identify Unbelief

Confess Unbelief

Replace Unbelief

EXTRACTING Unbelief ...



IDENTIFY → choosing “my will” over God’s word is UNBELIEF

CONFESS →

REPLACE →

EXTRACTING Unbelief ...



IDENTIFY → choosing “my will” over God’s word is UNBELIEF

CONFESS → my explanation (reason) why, does not JUSTIFY

REPLACE →

EXTRACTING Unbelief ...



IDENTIFY → choosing “my will” over God’s word is UNBELIEF

CONFESS → my explanation (reason) why, does not JUSTIFY

REPLACE → exchange “my belief” with WORDS from God

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MATTHEW 12:43-45 ... do not free “one unbelieving spirit” only to bring back 7 others more evil than itself ...

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