

A HOUSE FOR HIS NAME

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Expositional Study – “The Book of Hebrews -# 04”

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Text: Hebrews 2:1-18

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THE SUPERIORITY OF GOD'S APOSTLE

INTRODUCTION: As we move to chapter three, the writer proceeds to prove to the attendees of the Church gathered, that Jesus Christ was superior not only to the prophets, and to the angels, as chapter One revealed; but also, to every human prophet, especially Moses. He ends this chapter with a second warning against failure to maintain Christ's superiority in one's heart and their outward life and living. To help the reader with this, he reminds them of the great wilderness disaster of Israel. Let's explore this now and ...

I. COMPARE OUR SAVIOR'S WORTHINESS - (3:1-6)

A) Note by Contemplation – “God's Apostle, the Messiah”

B) Note by Contrast – “God's Agent, Moses”

II. CONSIDER THE SPIRIT'S WARNINGS - (3:7-19)

A) The Example of Unfaithfulness – “Professors”

B) The Exhortation to Faithfulness – “Possessors”

CONCLUSION: Again the reader of Hebrews must be careful to not presume anything concerning to whom the writer, via the Spirit of God is speaking. It is very easy, but careless to assume everything applies to only true believers. There are warnings here to both the “professors” only, and the personal “possessors” of Jesus Christ. The latter reflects real true believers, whose faith will stand through all trials and temptations. But the previous “professors” only, their glib acknowledgements of beliefs will not stand. In time, the Spirit of God reveals, it will melt away and be hardened in unbelief, as those Israelites in the wilderness disaster long ago. How do you believe? Have you given all of yourself to Christ as your Lord God and Savior? May it be so for your eternal welfare.

BIBLE TEXT FOR MESSAGE

The New International Version 2011

Hebrews 3:1-19 (NIV)

1 Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest. 2 He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. 3 Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. 4 For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. 5 "Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house," bearing witness to what would be spoken by God in the future. 6 But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory.

7 So, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you hear his voice, 8 do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the wilderness, 9 where your ancestors tested and tried me, though for forty years they saw what I did. 10 That is why I was angry with that generation; I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray, and they have not known my ways.' 11 So I declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'" 12 See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. 13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. 14 We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end. 15 As has just been said: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion." 16 Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt? 17 And with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies perished in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed? 19 So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.