

HARDEN NOT YOUR HEARTS

Hebrews 3:7-11

INTRODUCTION:

A. The Hebrew congregation is a house of God

- 1) *"Whose house are we"*
- 2) They builded an holy temple unto God

B. As an assembly they could fail

- 1) They must hold fast their bold faith
- 2) They must retain their joyous hope

C. Paul now uses an example from Hebrew history as a warning to these believers.

- 1) These hardened their hearts
- 2) They tested God
- 3) They would not believe God

I. Israel In The Wilderness verse 7

A. Israel's deliverance, a type

- 1) *I Corinthians 10:1-2*
- 2) They were blood delivered, deep water baptized, lead by the Spirit, and on their way to the promised land.

B. David wrote of their failure

- 1) *Psalms 95:1-11*
- 2) Israel failed in her service to God

II. Israel And The Word Of God

A. They would not hear His voice

- 1) *"wherefore"* = $\delta\iota\omicron$ = "therefore, the quotation looks forward and backward. Because of these things"

2) ("as the Holy Ghost saith, Today if you will hear His voice.")

3) "Today, when you hear his voice..." TENT

B. "Harden not your hearts, as in the day of provocation" vs 4

1) "harden" = σκληρυνω = "dried up", "stiff", "of things done grievous"

2) "provocation" = παραπικρασμος = "an embittering with or towards anyone", "exasperation or rebellion" It is from the Hebrew word, "Meribah"

3) Exodus 15:23-24 - "bitter water"

C. "in the day of temptation in the wilderness:" vs 8b

1) "temptation" = πειρασμος = "temptation". It is from the Hebrew, "Massah" meaning, "testing"

2) "On the day they tried my patience in the desert"

3) Exodus 17:7 - 1-7 = water at Horeb

D. "when your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years." vs 9

1) "tempted" = πειραζω = "to try", "to tempt"

2) "proved" = δοκιμασια = "proof". The word implies a testing which is intended to bring out the good."

E. The children of Israel tested God!

1) Psalm 78:1-72 (12-22)

2) Faith does not test, it believes

3) Malachi 3:10 - This verse states that Israel was to "prove" Him, however they were a disbelieving and sinning people who could do no good.

4) God doesn't want us to test Him but He wants us to trust Him.

III. Israel And God's Grief With Them

A. *"wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said:"*
vs 10

- 1) "grieved" = προσοχθίζω = "to be burdened or heavy laden", "to be sore vexed with, implying loathing", "to be exhausted", "worn out"
- 2) "That was why I was angry with that generation" Gspd

B. *"They do always err in their heart;"*

- 1) "err" = πλανῶ = "to make to wander", "to cause to go astray, used especially of doctrinal error, or religious deceit"
- 2) "In their hearts they always wander around" Beck

C. *"...and they have not know my ways"*

- 1) "And they have never found my paths" Gspd
- 2) They knew what was happening but they never know what God was doing. They would not obey because they never discerned the true paths of God.

D. *"so I swear in my wrath, they shall not enter into my rest)"*

- 1) σπνυμι = "to swear"
- 2) "wrath" = οργη = "anger"
- 3) "enter" = εισερχομαι = "to go into"
- 4) "rest" = καταπαυσις = "a resting down", "putting to rest", "a place of rest", "fixed abode"
- 5) "They shall never come to my place of rest!" Beck