

### **Background Information**

Moses faithfully administered over God's house, the tabernacle, as a servant of God. Jesus, our High Priest faithfully administers over His own house, the church, and supplies the grace that is needed to help us obey God's Word.

Rest is a key concept in Hebrews. In the Old Testament, the conquest of the Promised Land was a form of rest. They should have been able to rest in God's promises and conquer the land He had given them. In the same way the New Testament believer is able to call on God's grace and strength to conquer any trial that presents itself. It has been said that, God's Grace is God's supply for Gods standard.

Unbelief in essence, is a stubborn refusal to trust in the truthfulness of God's Word. The author calls unbelief both sin (v.17) and disobedience (v. 18). Israel did not enter God's rest, because they did not believe His Word and trust in His Promises. They therefore, did not fully possess their inheritance. The believers to whom this letter was addressed were also in danger of following in Israel's footsteps. They were tempted to doubt the words of Jesus. The author encouraged them to exhort and encourage each other to hold their faith firmly to the end.



## LOOKING FOR GOLD - WHAT DOES IT SAY?

The first step in mining for gold is getting the lay of the land. **Carefully observe the text** looking to see where you might dig to find hidden treasure. **Mark your text** looking for repeated words, contrasts or similarities. Look for answers to, Who? What? When? Where? Why or How?

*Setting the scene: You may want to begin your reading with Ps. 95:7-11, 1 Cor. 10:1-13, Heb. 12:25-29*

### Heb 3:1-6

1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, 2 who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. 3 For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house. 4 For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. 5 And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, 6 but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.



### Digging Deeper

Dig deeper using other resources such as a dictionary, concordance, maps & cross-references. Notate where you found it to share with the group. Look for commands to obey or questions to be answered. What does God want you to know about Himself?

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### Heb 3:7-15

7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you will hear His voice, 8 Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, 9 Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, and saw My works forty years. 10 Therefore I was angry with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways.' 11 So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'"

12 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, 15 while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."



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**Heb 3:16-19**

16 For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? 17 Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? 19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.



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## BOILING IT DOWN – WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



What **lesson** can I draw from my observations?

State each lesson in a simple sentence (aim for 10 words or less).

Hebrews 3:1–6 \_\_\_\_\_

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Hebrews 3:7-15 \_\_\_\_\_

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Hebrews 3:16-19 \_\_\_\_\_

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## REFINED AS GOLD – HOW CAN I APPLY IT?

How should it change me? Ask yourself, “What **course of action** do I need to take to apply each lesson?” (aim for 10 words or less)

Hebrews 3:1–6 \_\_\_\_\_

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Hebrews 3:7-15 \_\_\_\_\_

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Hebrews 3:16–19 \_\_\_\_\_

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**CHALLENGE:** Use cross-references to find correlating scripture that backs up a main point of the chapter. Summarize your findings in your own words.

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### STORING UP YOUR TREASURE . . .

**FOR DISCUSSION:**

What causes a hard heart? v. 15-19

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What can we do to guard against hardening our hearts?

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What words or phrases are repeated? Repeated words help us discover the main point.

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**CHECKING FOR CLARITY:** See if you can boil down the meaning of **each section** into one or two words. This helps you fully understand what the author is trying to convey. (It's fun to alliterate if you want to try) Did you catch the vision?

Hebrews 3:1-6 \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrews 3:7-15 \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrews 3:16-19 \_\_\_\_\_

**BARS OF GOLD:** State the main **point** of the passage in the form of a title.

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**FLEX YOUR MUSCLES:** Can you discover an O.T. example of this N.T. truth?

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## HIDE YOUR TREASURE IN YOUR HEART

“Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.” Hebrews 3:15

### Radiating His Truth . . .

The first step toward a hard heart is neglect of the Word of God, not taking it seriously. It is either “hearing or hardening.” Take your choice. - Warren Wiersbe

