

## **Hebrews Chapter 3**

Memory: 3:12

### **Theme: Unbelief**

The “Apostle and High Priest of our confession” is Jesus Christ (3:1). He was faithful in His service to God, as was Moses. However, since Jesus is a builder of the house and Moses was just part of the house, Jesus is superior to Moses (3:2, 4). We are in Christ’s house, the church, if we “hold fast” (3:6; cf. Eph. 2:11-22; 1 Pet. 2:5).

The writer states an eternal truth, “every house is built by someone” (3:4). This is true of a log cabin in the woods, a mansion on the golf course, or children’s fort in the woods. It is also true concerning the house of mankind, the earth. It was built by Someone, not “no one” (Gen. 1:1; Psa. 19:1-6). An atheist will deny a cabin appeared by random chance, yet at the same time say the earth, with its abundant life, did. Truly the fool has said, “There is no God” (Psa. 14:1).

Just as Jesus is faithful over His own house, the Holy Spirit admonished the Hebrews to be faithful (3:7-11; cf. Psa. 95:7-11). The Israelites in general did not believe God’s word, nor were they convinced by God’s works. As a result, they were killed in the wilderness over a 40-year period. Hence, the warning to the Hebrews was plain—“Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God” (3:12). As Christians, we need to take heed lest we fall (1 Cor. 10:12). We need to encourage one another and help each other see sin for what it is, evil.

Disbelief and disobedience go hand-in-hand. The Israelites did not obey because they did not believe (3:18, 19). Many people today do not obey because they do not believe (Mk. 16:16).

## Questions & Discussion

Note Key Verses:

1. Christians are partakers of the “heavenly calling.” Find other references to our “calling,” to describe what it is and what our responsibilities are.
2. The Hebrew writer said “hold fast.” What will help us do this?
3. How can Christians exhort one another?
4. In what ways does the Bible teach that we are partakers of Christ and what does that mean for us (hint: 2 Pet. 1:4; 1 Pet. 4:13; 1 Cor. 10:16, 17; Eph. 1:3; 3:6)?
5. Consider unbelief and its consequences (3:17). What applications can be made or examples given today?

Do not believe  
In the church

Will not  
Attend or respect it