

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Hebrews Bible Study — Hebrews 3:7-17 Lesson #6

****INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the entire section of Scripture in Hebrews before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word. Most Scriptures used are from the New King James Version.

7-9 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: **“Today, if you will HEAR His VOICE, do NOT HARDEN your hearts** as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness, where your fathers tested Me, proved Me, and saw My works forty years.

• **Psalm 95:7b-9** “Today, if you will _____ His _____; do _____ your _____, as in the rebellion, and as in the day of trial in the _____, when your fathers _____ Me; they proved Me, though they saw My work works _____ years.”

• **Hebrews 3:12-13** “Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an _____ of _____ in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called ‘Today,’ lest any of you be _____ through the _____ of _____.”

Definition: **“Today, if you will HEAR His VOICE”** – God is always speaking to people, through preaching, His written word, and sometimes in miraculous ways. Mankind’s problem is that we don’t LISTEN, HEAR or OBEY His voice

• **Deuteronomy 18:18** “I will raise up for them a _____ like you from among their _____, and will put My _____ in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. And it shall be that whoever will not _____ My _____, which He _____ in My _____, I will require it of him.”

• **Matthew 17:5** “While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a _____ came out of the cloud, saying, ‘This is My _____, in whom I am well pleased. _____ Him!’”

Definition: **“Do NOT HARDEN your HEARTS”** – Hardness of heart in the Bible usually means the inability to discern spiritual things, **especially by NOT OBEYING God**, and can also have the idea of lack of feeling or lack of compassion for others. **The person with the hardened heart is often unable to FEEL the compassion that God would have them feel over lost souls going to hell**, or FEEL the sorrow of God over the **sin in their own lives**, and their need for repentance. This hardening is a PROCESS. Just as water does not harden into ice in a moment, and soft clay does not harden into a piece of ceramics instantly, our hearts can **become HARDENED over time if, when we hear God’s word, we disregard or disobey what it says**, and by doing that **we resist or grieve the Holy Spirit**, and we gradually HARDEN our HEARTS.

• **Exodus 8:15** “But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he _____ his _____ and did not _____ to them, as the Lord had said.”

• **Mark 8:17** “And Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, ‘Why do you reason because you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive nor _____? Is your _____ still _____?’”

• **Acts 7:51** “You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in _____ and _____! You always _____ the _____; as your fathers did, so do you.”

• **Ephesians 4:30** “And do not _____ the _____ of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”

10-11 Therefore **I was ANGRY with that generation**, and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart,

and they have not known My ways.' **So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall NOT enter My REST.'**"

• **Psalm 106:24-26** "Then they despised the pleasant land; they did _____ believe His _____, but murmured in their tents, and did not heed the _____ of the Lord. Therefore He lifted up His hand in an oath _____ them, to _____ them in the _____."

• **Psalm 95:10-11** "For _____ years I was _____ with that generation, and said, 'It is a people who go astray in their hearts, and they do not know My ways. So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not _____ My _____.'"

• **I Corinthians 10:1-4** "Moreover, brethren, I do _____ want you to be unaware that all our _____ were under the cloud, all passed through the _____, all were baptized into _____ in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same _____, and all _____ the same _____. For they drank of that _____ that followed them, and that _____ was _____."

• **Hebrews 3:16-19** "For who, having heard, _____? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt; _____ by _____? Now with whom was He _____ forty years? Was it not with _____ who _____, whose corpses fell in the _____? And to whom did He swear that they would not _____ His _____, but to those who did _____? So we see that they could _____ enter in because of _____."

Definition: "They shall not ENTER My REST" – For the Israelites who were led out of Egypt by Moses, this refers to the fact that **God did not allow them to enter the Promised Land (His rest)**, but they died in the wilderness, and only their children got to enter the Promised Land. **The only adults from that generation who were allowed to enter the Promised Land were Joshua and Caleb, because they DID believe God's word.**

• **Deuteronomy 1:35-38** "Surely _____ one of these men of this _____ generation shall _____ that good _____ of which I swore to give to your fathers, except _____ the son of Jephunneh; _____ shall see it, and to _____ and his _____ I am giving the _____ on which he walked, because he wholly _____ the _____. The Lord was also angry with me (Moses) for your sakes, saying, 'Even you shall _____ go in there; but _____ the son of Nun, who stands before you, he shall _____ in _____. Encourage him, for he shall cause Israel to inherit it.'"

• **Numbers 14:22-24** "Because all these men who have _____ My glory and the _____ which I did in _____ and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the _____ now these ten times, and have _____ heeded (obeyed) My voice, they certainly shall _____ see the _____ of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who _____ Me see it. But My servant _____, because he has a different _____ in him and has _____ Me _____, I will _____ into the _____ where he went, and his descendants shall _____ it."

12-15 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil HEART of UNBELIEF in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called 'Today,' **lest any of you be HARDENED through the DECEITFULNESS of SIN.** For we have become PARTAKERS of Christ if we hold the beginning of our CONFIDENCE steadfast to the end, while it is said, "Today, if you will hear His voice, **do not harden your hearts** as in the rebellion."

• **Mark 8:17** "And Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, 'Why do you reason because you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive nor _____? Is your _____ still _____?'"

• **Luke 8:5-8 & 12-15** “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on _____ (hardened, rocky soil); and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among _____, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on _____ ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.....” (Verses 12-15) “Now the parable is this: The _____ is the _____ of _____. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the _____ who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have _____ who believe for a while and in time of temptation _____ And the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are _____ with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the _____ ground are those who, having _____ the _____ with a noble and good _____, keep it and bear _____ with patience.”

Definition: “HARDENED, ROCKY SOIL” — Hardness of heart in the Bible usually means the inability to discern spiritual things, and can also have the idea of lack of feeling or lack of compassion. The warning to Christians here in Hebrews is not only to **not DISCERN and understand the things of God, but also a WARNING NOT to DISOBEY God’s word.** For those working the Twelve Steps and doing their Step 10 inventories, **we need to check our hearts to see if it is hardened (rocky soil),** and check to see if the thorns of cares and worries, riches, or worldly pleasures are choking out the **seed of God’s word.** There is the **WARNING** here to **NOT be HARDENED through the DECEITFULNESS of SIN.**

• **Galatians 6:3** “For if anyone _____ himself to be _____, when he is _____, he _____.”

Definition: “HARDENED through the DECEITFULNESS of SIN – In Galatians 6:3 it is referring to **PRIDE.** The person who is full of himself (“THINKS himself to be SOMETHING”), **PRIDEFUL,** and conceited, is self-deceived. He can’t see clearly or judge situations clearly, because **his pride gets in the way.** We must ask God to examine us and our motives to make sure we are not **doing things out of pride and selfish motives.** We can also be deceived by every other kind of sin, as it says in Galatians 6:7-8. **We deceive ourselves** by thinking it’s all okay to do what we’re doing, but it will only end in pain, despair and death.

• **I Corinthians 3:18** “Let no one _____ himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age (full of worldly pride), let him become a fool that he may become wise.”

• **Galatians 6:7-8** “Do _____ be _____, God is not mocked; for _____ a man _____, that he will also _____. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap _____, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.”

16-17 For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt; led by Moses? Now **with whom was He ANGRY FORTY years?** Was it not with **those who SINNED, whose CORPSES fell in the wilderness?**

• **Jude, verse 5** “But I want to _____ you, though you once knew this, that the _____, having _____ the people _____ of the land of _____, afterward _____ those who did _____ believe.”

• **Numbers 14:34** “According to the number of the days in which you (Israel) spied out the land, _____ days, for each _____ you shall bear your _____ one _____, namely _____ years, and you shall know My rejection.”

Definition: “ANGRY for FORTY years” – There is a Scriptural principle involved concerning why God uses the number forty so many times in His word. We see **FORTY days and FORTY nights** for the judgment of God being poured out on the world in the flood of Noah. We see Moses on the mountain for **FORTY days and FORTY nights**, eating and drinking nothing (a miraculous fast - kids, don't try this at home!) while he received the Law, and we see from the New Testament that the law cannot save, but only kills. We see **Jesus being TESTED** and tempted by the devil for **FORTY days in the wilderness** (also a miraculous 40-day fast). **The “Children of Israel” had to wander in the wilderness for forty years because of their SIN of disobedience and unbelief.** So we see that **the number 40 has a significance in the Bible of referring to times of JUDGMENT, TESTING and TRIAL.** We also believe that **Jesus took the full FORTY LASHES of the scourging as part of our punishment for sin** – In Isaiah 53, the word of God tells us that the Messiah “was wounded for OUR transgressions, He was bruised (crushed) for OUR iniquities; the chastisement for OUR peace was upon Him, and **by His stripes (from the scourging) we are healed.**” Transgressions refers to all the times we have violated God’s laws and commandments. Iniquities refers to wickedness, unrighteous acts, and just “doing our own thing” in rebellion against God. **Chastisement means PUNISHMENT.** Jesus took the full punishment for our sins, in order for us to NOT be punished by God. The complete atonement was finished by His death on the cross, but the **“FORTY stripes”** or full amount of lashes from the scourging, was a significant part of **the JUDGMENT of God being “laid on Him”** for our sins and iniquities. Praise God! We, as believers in Jesus Christ, will never be punished for our sins, because Jesus took our punishment on Himself.

•**Genesis 7:4-5** “For after seven more days I will cause it to rain on the earth _____ days and _____ nights, and I will destroy from the face of the earth all living things that I have made.” And Noah did according to all that the Lord commanded him.”

•**Mark 1:12-13** “And immediately the _____ drove Him into the wilderness. And He was there in the wilderness _____ days, tempted by Satan....”

•**Luke 4:1-2** “Then _____, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was _____ by the _____ into the _____, being tempted for _____ days by the devil....”

•**Exodus 34:28** “So he (Moses) was there with the Lord _____ days and _____ nights; he did not eat bread or drink water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the _____, the Ten _____.”

Definition: “Those who SINNED, whose CORPSES fell in the wilderness” – All of the Israelites who **did NOT believe God when He said He would give them the Promised Land** were not allowed to enter it, but only their children, forty years later, could enter the land. Those who disobeyed God wandered in the wilderness for forty years until they all died and their bodies (corpses) were buried in the desert.

•**Numbers 14:28-32** “”Say to them ‘As I live,’ says the Lord, ‘just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: the _____ of you who have _____ against _____ shall _____ in this _____, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. Except for _____ the son of Jephunneh and _____ the son of Nun, _____ shall by _____ means _____ the _____ which I swore I would make you dwell in. But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will _____ in, and they shall know the land which _____ have _____. But as for you, your _____ shall _____ in this _____.”