

HEBREWS 3

1. Why should all Christians pay careful attention?

-That we do not drift away from our faith in Christ.

2. What is the message spoken through angels?

-The law of Moses.

3. Why is it important to know that the law of Moses was given through angels?

-If people were punished by breaking the law of Moses which angels brought, how much more will people be punished who refuse salvation which Christ brought.

4. Why are there no prophets today like Moses and Elijah?

-Because the prophets were given the ability to do miracles to prepare the people for the coming of the Savior, and the Savior has come.

5. Why are there no apostles today like Peter and Paul?

-Because the apostles were given the ability to do miracles to begin the Church, and the Church has begun.

6. Are there signs, wonders, and miracles today?

-God is all powerful, and does not change.

-God can do any miracle if it is His will.

-God continues to use miracles to help people to believe in Christ.

7. Does God give people the ability to do miracles today?

-No. If there are miracles, they come directly from God.

8. Why don't we see more miracles today like we see in the Old and New Testaments?

-Because many of us have the Word of God.

9. When God created the earth, did He give the earth to angels?

-No. He gave the earth to Adam and Eve and to all people.

10. If the Lord Jesus was already perfect in heaven, how was He made perfect through his suffering?

-Because the Lord Jesus became human and lived on earth with us, He became a perfect sacrifice for us.

11. Most religions say that we can make ourselves holy by the work that we do. Who is the only One who can make us holy?

-Only the Lord Jesus.

-In the first two lessons, we learned that the Lord Jesus is superior to prophets and angels.

-In this lesson, we will learn that the Lord Jesus is superior to Moses.

Let's read Hebrews 3:1-6

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.

-Why does the Word of God teach us that there is a difference between Christ and Moses?

-Because some people believe more in Moses than they do in Christ.

-What is the difference between Moses and Christ?

-Moses is a man, but Christ is God Himself.

-Moses is only a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ.

-How is Moses a picture of the Lord Jesus?

-As God chose Moses to lead His people Israel, God also chose Christ to lead us His people, the Church.

-As God spoke through Moses, God spoke through the Lord Jesus.

-As Moses was faithful in leading Israel, Christ is faithful in leading His people, all true Christians.

-Why did God give Moses to Israel?

-To prepare Israel and all people for Christ.

-How was Moses to prepare Israel for Christ?

-Just as God through Moses saved Israel from slavery in Egypt, God in Christ saves people from slavery in Satan.

-Just as God through Moses led Israel through the desert, God in Christ leads us through the desert of this life.

-Just as God gave the laws to Israel through Moses to show them their sin, God in Christ died on the cross to show us our sin.

-Christ did not die for His sin because He had no sin.

-Christ died for our sin so that our sins could be paid for.

-Instead of believing in Christ, however, Israel believed in Moses and the laws of Moses.

-Yet, the Moses and the laws that Israel believed in were not the Moses and the laws that God gave to Israel.

-What were the Moses and the laws that Israel believed in?

-The Moses and the laws that Israel believed in were those that Israel itself chose.

-Instead of believing what God gave to them, Israel took what God gave to them, and changed most of it.

-Instead of believing the laws which God gave to them, Israel decided to make up their own laws.

-What was Israel's problem that is still a problem today?

-First, people believe in religious leaders instead of believing in God.

-Second, people believe in their own laws instead of believing in the laws of God.

-All religions today except for true Christianity worship someone or something other than God.

-All religions today except for true Christianity have chosen their own laws which are different from God's laws.

-It is God/Christ alone who makes us Christians holy, and this is why we must fix our thoughts on the Lord Jesus.

Let's read Hebrews 3:7-11

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.' "

-After Israel left Egypt and were on their way to the promised land, they sinned greatly against God.

-God, therefore, made them wander in the desert for forty years until those who had sinned against God died.

-Because Israel sinned against God, God told them that they would never enter His rest.

-Even though Israel saw the miracle of God opening the Red Sea and destroying Pharaoh and his army, they still hardened their hearts.

-Even though Israel saw the miracle of God giving them water and food in the desert, they still hardened their hearts.

-Why is it easy for the hearts of people to become hardened?

-Because sin is very strong.

-Sin is stronger than we can understand.

-Even though Saul was chosen by God to be the first king of Israel, he sinned against God by not destroying all of the cattle of the enemy (1 Samuel 15).

-Even though King David had the heart of God, he sinned against Bathsheba and was responsible for the death of her husband (2 Samuel 11).

-Even though Peter spoke, saying that the Lord Jesus is the Christ, he later denied Christ three times.

-Only God is stronger than sin.

-For the Christian, our hearts are one with the Lord Jesus.

-Yet, we must continue to fill our hearts with the Word of God so that we will become like Christ.

-We must also encourage non-Christians to believe in

Christ before it is too late.

-If people do not believe in Christ on this earth, they will never enter into the eternal rest of God.

Let's read Hebrews 3:12-15

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."

-Some people say that these verses prove that Christians can lose their salvation.

-This is not true.

-These verses are teaching us to remember Israel who turned away from God so that we might encourage one another.

-If we believe in Christ, Christ will make sure that we hold our original belief firmly to the very end.

- After Christ has saved us, what does He do for us?
- He keeps our salvation firmly until the very end.

Let's read Hebrews 3:16-19

- 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.

-Even though God through Moses led Israel out of Egypt, many of Israel still did not believe in God.

-Some people think that they must see a miracle to believe in God, but many of Israel saw many miracles and still did not believe in God.

- What is the greatest sin?
- To not believe in God.

Let's read Hebrews 4:1-2

1-Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it.

2-For we also have had the good news proclaimed to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because they did not share the faith of those who obeyed.

- Hearing the Word of God is not enough.
- People must believe in order to be saved.

-Even though Israel had Abraham and Moses and the laws, they still did not believe.

Let's read Hebrews 4:3-7

3-Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, "So I declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'" And yet his works have been finished since the creation of the world.

4-For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: "On the seventh day God rested from all his works."

5-And again in the passage above he says, "They shall never enter my rest."

6-Therefore since it still remains for some to enter that rest, and since those who formerly had the good news proclaimed to them did not go in because of their disobedience,

7-God again set a certain day, calling it "Today." This he did when a long time later he spoke through David, as in the passage already quoted: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts."

-What is the promise of rest for the Christian?

-It is a spiritual rest here on earth as well as an eternal rest with the Father in heaven.

-All Christians already have a rest here on earth.

-It is a rest from trying to please God, but failing.

-It is a rest from showing God our goodness when we have none.

-It is a rest from the fear of dying.

-It is a rest from the fear of spending eternity in hell.

Let's read Hebrews 4:8-11

8-For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day.

9-There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God;

10-for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his.

11-Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience.

-This is the eternal rest which waits for us in heaven.

Let's read Hebrews 4:12

12-For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

-The Word of God is alive and active because our God is alive and active.

-The Word of God and God are the same, and you cannot separate them.

-This is why we must read the Word of God every day.

-This is why we must speak the Word of God to others.

-The Word of God is our protection against the desires of our flesh, the call of the world, and the lies of Satan,

Let's read Hebrews 4:13

13-Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

-Even though people think that they can hide from God, they cannot.

-When we face God, we must give an account of our life here on earth.