

The Unbelief of the Believer

I. Introduction & Definition—1st Cor. 10:1-13

A. An example of failure serves as an admonishment for success (1st Cor. 10:6,11).

1. ^{#5179}: *type, pattern, mold.*
2. ^{#3559}: *admonishment, exhortation.* Verb ^{#3560}: *to admonish, warn.* From ^{#3563}: *mind*
& μ ^{#5087}: *to put, place.*

B. A false assumption of standing serves as a warning against falling (1st Cor. 10:12-13).

II. Development & Application—Heb. 3:1-4:16

A. Consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession (Heb. 3:1).

1. ν .2pl.aor.act.imper. ^{#2657}: *to consider attentively, fix one's eyes or mind upon.*
2. μ ^{#3671}: *profession, confession* (Heb. 3:1; 4:14; 10:23).

B. Christ is superior to Moses, even as a son is superior to a servant (Heb. 3:2-6).

1. Moses was an example for his generation. His testimony was a preview (Heb. 3:5).
2. Jesus is an example for all time.

C. Even as believers in Moses' day had a promised reward for faithfulness, so did believers in David's day (Ps. 95:9-11), so also do believers today (Heb. 3:7-11).

1. The occasion was daily perception and application of the Word. Aor.act.subj. ^{#191}.
2. The danger was hardness of heart. Aor.act.subj. ^{#4645}.
3. The result was being led astray. Pres.Pass.Ind. ^{#4105}.
4. The consequence was wrath (Divine discipline). N.Sing.Fem. ^{#3709}.
5. The trajedy was forfeit reward.

D. The Church faces the same test that Israel faced in the wilderness—the unbelief of the believer as the manifestation of a hardened heart (Heb. 3:12-19).

1. Take care = continually watch.
 - a. Pres.act.imper. ^{#991} cf. 1st Cor. 10:12.
 - b. Every believer is vulnerable.
2. An evil heart of unbelief (^{#570}) leads to apostasizing (μ ^{#868}). It is a short step from to .
3. Encourage = continually comfort, encourage, and exhort yourselves (not: one another).
 - a. Pres.act.imper. ^{#3870}.
 - b. Reflexive pronoun ^{#1438} (used 13x in Heb.). Not reciprocal pronoun ^{#240} (used 1x Heb. 10:24).
4. Our position as partakers (μ , plural of μ ^{#3353}) of Christ's rest-reward is conditional upon our strong finish (Heb. 3:14).
 - a. Disobedience disqualifies the hard-hearted (Heb. 3:18). Aor.act.ptc. ^{#544}.
 - b. Disobedience equals unbelief (Heb. 3:19). Noun.Fem.Sing. ^{#570}.

E. Believers no longer fear falling short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). Our concern is falling short of the Sabbath rest He supplies on a daily basis (Heb. 4:1-11; Ps. 95:7,11).

F. Believers fall short of the daily Sabbath rest by failing to unite the Word of God with faith (Heb. 4:2).

1. The Christian walk of faith is the Christian blessing of rest (Heb. 4:3).
2. This daily Sabbath rest assures the believer that he is done working (his own works) (Heb. 4:10).

G. The Word of God is the living and active agent that pierces the believer's soul & spirit, convicting us daily in our walk and rest (Heb. 4:12,13).

H. Believers will only attain to that daily rest as we submit to the Word's judgment in our soul, and maintain a diligent priesthood function of prayer before the Throne of Grace (Heb. 4:14-16).

1. We have confidence to engage in this priesthood function because of our victorious & sympathetic high priest—Jesus the Son of God.
2. In this priesthood function of prayer, we receive all the daily grace & mercy needed to hold fast our confession.

III. Summary & Conclusion—Disobedience and Unbelief

- A. Disobedient unbelief of the Gospel by the unregenerate falls short of God's glory and receives the due penalty of God's eternal wrath (Jn. 3:36; Rom. 3:23; 6:23).
- B. Disobedient unbelief of the Word of God by the regenerate falls short of God's rest and receives the due penalty of God's temporal wrath (Heb. 3:18,19; 4:1,6,11).