

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for July 13, 2014

Christ is Superior to Moses
Hebrews 3:15-19

The author saw Christ as superior to the prophets (Hebrews 1:1-4).

The author of Hebrews saw Christ as superior to the angels (Hebrews 1:5-2:18). The author of Hebrews saw Christ as superior to Moses (Hebrews 3:1-4:13). Christ, as an example of faithfulness, is superior to Moses (Hebrews 3:1-6). Christ's superior example of faithfulness led the author to warn his readers against the sin of unbelief (Hebrews 3:7-4:13).

The author began this warning section by highlighting for his readers the past failure of Israel in the wilderness when they hardened their hearts against God and were ultimately judged for that hardening (Hebrews 3:7-11).

After the author had highlighted Israel's past failure and subsequent judgment he then, in light of Israel's past failure, exhorted his readers in Hebrews 3:12-13.

After exhorting his readers in Hebrews 3:12-13 the author stressed the vital importance of perseverance for confirming whether or not a professing believer was in fact a "partaker of Christ" (Hebrews 3:14).

After stressing the vital importance of perseverance the author once again reminded his readers of Israel's past failure in the wilderness and their subsequent judgment (Hebrews 3:15-19; cf. 3:7-11).

In Hebrews 3:15, the author ended the sentence that he had begun in Hebrews 3:12 by quoting the exhortation portion of Psalm 95:7-8 which he had earlier quoted in Hebrews 3:7-8.

The author chose to end the sentence that he had begun in verse 12 with the exhortation portion of Psalm 95:7-8 so that Hebrews 3:15 might serve as a summary of Hebrews 3:12-14.

After using Hebrews 3:15 to summarize what he had said in Hebrews 3:12-14, he then in Hebrews 3:16-18 chose to dissect Israel's past failure and subsequent judgment using questions and answers.

The author concluded in Hebrews 3:19 that the root cause of Israel's past failure and subsequent judgment was unbelief.

May God through His grace continually give us the faith to respond to His voice so that we would not suffer the fate of Israel but would rather, through perseverance, prove ourselves to be partakers of God.

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