



PRESSING ON

TO MATURITY

A Study of the Book of Hebrews

THE DANGER OF UNBELIEF
HEBREWS 3:7-19

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Introduction: Many people have adopted the motto, “Never do today what you can put off until tomorrow” as a way of life. But procrastination can have severe consequences in every area of our lives -- especially in our spiritual life, as the writer of Hebrews warns.

I. The Definition Of A Hard Heart

A hard heart is one that continually refuses to trust God when tested, and obey God when ordered.

II. The Illustration Of A Hard Heart (Hebrews 3:7-11)

Hebrews 3:7-9 ⁷ “Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, ‘TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,
⁸ DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME, AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN
THE WILDERNESS ⁹ WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED ME BY TESTING ME, AND SAW MY WORKS FOR
FORTY YEARS.’”

2 Peter 1:20-21 ²⁰ “But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s
own interpretation, ²¹ for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved
by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.”

Psalms 95:6-7 ⁶ “Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.
⁷ For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand. Today, if
you would hear His voice,”

A. In the Area of Faith

Psalms 95:8-9 ⁸ “Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the
wilderness; ⁹ When your fathers tested Me; they tried Me, though they had seen My work.”

B. In the Area of Obedience

Hebrews 3:10-11 ¹⁰ “THEREFORE I WAS ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION, AND SAID, ‘THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART; AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS’; ¹¹ AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, ‘THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.’”

III. The Remedy For A Hard Heart (Hebrews 3:12-13)

Hebrews 3:12 “Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in falling away from the living God.”

A. Examination

Three Symptoms of a Hard Heart

1. Is your heart **cold**?
2. Is your heart **critical**?
3. Is your heart **cynical**?

B. Exhortation (Hebrews 3:13)

Hebrews 3:13 “But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called “Today,” lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”

IV. The Consequence Of A Hard Heart (Hebrews 3:14-19)

Hebrews 3:17-19 ¹⁷ “And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did He swear that they should not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient? ¹⁹ And so we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.”