

THE LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

JESUS IS THE ULTIMATE REVELATION OF GOD

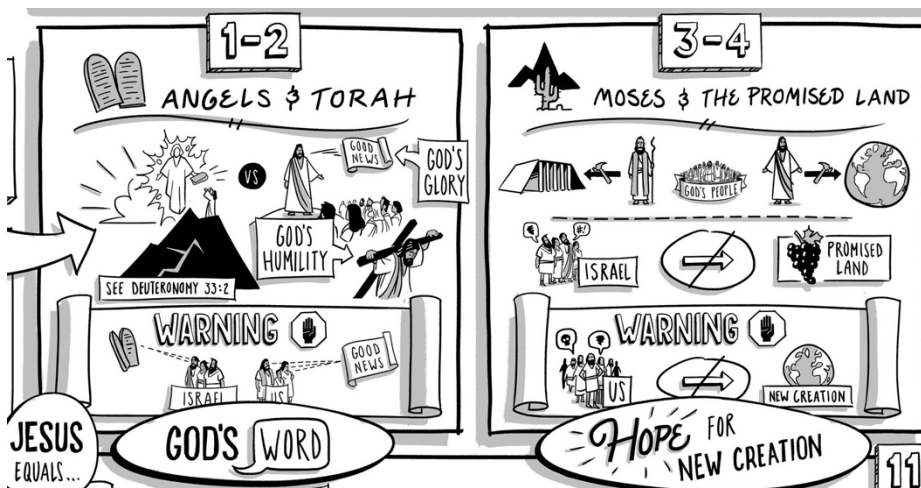
14 November 2021

Chapter 3

Verse of the Day:

For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. (Hebrews 3:3)

Review: Who, What, When, Where, & Why?



What's Going on Here?

A glance back at the Old Testament will provide the historical setting for this section of Hebrews. The people of Israel took 40 years to accomplish what could have been done in about two weeks. Why did it take them so long? Unbelief! They decided to follow their own way instead of God's way. Sin deceived them into thinking they knew better than God. That led to hardening of their hearts.

The writer clearly states the consequences and punishment of sin. While Israel could have been living a healthy life in a land flowing with milk and honey, the people instead lay dead in the wilderness as God administered divine discipline. Clearly the Lord is displeased with every act of disobedience, rebellion, and unbelief. The warning of this lesson comes to us as fresh today as it came almost 2,000 years ago. God realizes that we need the kind of warning that will keep us alert to the things we cannot afford to forget.¹

Jesus Greater Than Moses

3 Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ²who was *faithful* to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was *faithful* in all God's house. ³For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵Now Moses was *faithful*

v1: Therefore...consider [notice, observe, contemplate] Jesus... Why? What is so special about Him that precedes Ch 3?

v1: apostle & high priest: how is this fitting?

¹ Kramin, Howard (1997). God's Word for Today: Hebrews (p. 22). St. Louis: Concordia Pub. House. Reproducible by purchaser only.

<p>in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶ but Christ is <i>faithful</i> over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our <u>boasting</u> in our hope.</p> <p>A Rest for the People of God</p> <p>⁷ Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you hear his voice, ⁸ do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, ⁹ where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. ¹⁰ Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.' ¹¹ As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest.' "</p> <p>¹² <u>Take care</u>, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. ¹⁵ As it is said, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." ¹⁶ For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? ¹⁷ And with whom was he provoked 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 would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? ¹⁹ So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.</p>	<p>v2, 5, 6: How do we like Moses show that we are "faithful"?</p> <p>v6b: boasting → act of taking pride in something</p> <p>v7-11: c.f. Exodus 17:1–7. How did the people test God? What was the outcome?</p> <p>c.f. Psalm 95 & LSB 220 (Matins). How does this Psalm use Law and Gospel?</p> <p>v12: Take care that you don't end up like the people who died in the wilderness (c.f. v16-19).</p> <p>What was the final event that caused the Israelites to begin their 40 year wanderings? Why is this a fitting analogy for us?</p>
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