

Harden Not Your Hearts, As In The Provocation

I. Introduction:

- A. Obedience to the Lord comes from the heart (**Romans 6:17**).
 - 1. With purpose of the heart (**Acts 11:23**; cf. **Daniel 1:8**).
 - 2. Jesus taught this clearly (**Luke 6:43-46**).
- B. Disobedience comes from the heart too (**Deuteronomy 29:18** and **Acts 8:13-24**).
 - 1. Turning back is a heart action (**Proverbs 14:14**; cf. **II Peter 2:20-22**).
 - 2. The sinful lusts of the heart bring disobedience (**Romans 1:18-32**).

II. Body: Our Lesson: **Hebrews 3:1-4:13**; cf. **Numbers 13:1-14:38**

- A. Take heed, for the standard is set (**Hebrews 1:8-2:4**).
 - 1. Israel of the past perished, in part, for not taking heed unto the Lord (**Hosea 4:1-10**).
 - 2. We'd do well not to be overly confident, but to learn from them to take heed lest any of us fall (**I Corinthians 10:1-12**).
- B. Each member, not just evangelists, are to be exhorting [beseech; comfort] one another daily (**Acts 14:22**, **Ephesians 4:1-6**, and **I Thessalonians 5:11-14**).
 - 1. You CANNOT get to heaven without faithful brethren as provoking and exhorting one another is part of your duties (**Hebrews 10:22-25**).
 - 2. You CANNOT get to heaven without faithful brethren for fellowship is required of us (**Acts 2:42** and **Hebrews 13:15-16** [communicate]).
 - 3. Though much more could be said and other points added here, the fact is, YOU NEED FAITHFUL BRETHREN (**Ephesians 4:16**).
- C. This life is our proving ground, live so that He'll let you in to that rest prepared for His people (**Titus 2:11-14** and **II Peter 1:1-15**).
 - 1. The place being prepared for us is not ours (**John 14:1-3**).
 - 2. Show Him that you are worthy to inherit a place in His house (**Ephesians 5:1-5**).
 - 3. Examine your heart by examining your actions (**I John 3:14-21**).
 - 4. Labor according to the Lord's will for the reward (**Hebrews 6:10-12**).
 - 5. Don't stop laboring as though you have arrived (**Philippians 3:4-21**).

III. Conclusion: If you're not faithful, consider starting with your heart in getting your life in order (**Psalms 95:6-11**, **Jeremiah 4:14**, **Ezekiel 18:31**, and **James 4:6-10**).