

Hebrews 3 (NKJV)

The Son Was Faithful

1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, 2 who was **faithful** to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was **faithful** in all His house. 3 For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house. 4 For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. 5 And Moses indeed was **faithful** in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, 6 but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the **confidence** and the rejoicing of the **hope** firm to the end.¹

Be Faithful

7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,
8 Do not harden your hearts as in the **rebellion**,
In the day of trial in the wilderness,
9 Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me,
And saw My works forty years.
10 Therefore I was angry with that generation,
And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart,
And they have not known My ways.’
11 So I swore in My wrath,
‘They shall not enter My rest.’”²

12 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of **unbelief** in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of **sin**. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our **confidence** steadfast to the end, 15 while it is said:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,
Do not harden your hearts as in the **rebellion**.”³

Failure of the Wilderness Wanderers

16 For who, having heard, **rebelled**? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? 17 Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who **sinned**, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who **did not obey**? 19 So we see that they could not enter in because of **unbelief**.⁴

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- 1 This first paragraph sets the stage by referencing the faithfulness of Moses and Christ Jesus. Then it calls the saints to hold fast in their faith to the end. Heb. 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
 - 2 This is a quote of Psalm 95:7b-11. It refers to the Exodus generation who God brought out of Egypt. God wanted to take them to the promised Land, but they rebelled against God's plan and they died in the wilderness. The “promised land” and “enter My rest” are both metaphors for going to Heaven.
 - 3 This paragraph warns the saints not to be like the Exodus generation. Though God brought them out of bondage in Egypt, because they lost their faith (unbelief), sinned and rebelled against God they did not enter the promised land. It reminds the saints to remain steadfast until the end.
 - 4 The last paragraph explicitly explains the metaphor of this entire chapter. Those God delivered from Egypt (itself a metaphor for Satan's Kingdom) did not enter the promised land because of rebellion, sinning unto death and loss of faith (unbelief).