

3. Straight to the point, what's the spiritual condition of your heart today? When you look back at this passage in Hebrews, what can you do to strengthen it?

Do You Have a Hard Heart? ♦ Dr. David Jeremiah

Hebrews 3:7-19
March 27, 2011

Sermon Notes

- I. The **disobedience** of a hard heart - Hebrews 3:7-11
- A. The **exhortation** to the Hebrews - Heb 3:7-8a, 13, 15; 4:7; II Co. 6:2
 - B. The **example** of the Israelites - Hebrews 3:8b-11
 - 1. The **Rebellion** - Hebrews 3:8b-9; Numbers 14:22-23; Exodus 17:1-3; 17:4-7
 - 2. The **Retribution** - Hebrews 3:10-11; Numb.14:10b-11, 20-23
- II. The **deceitfulness** of an evil heart - Hebrews 3:12-19
- A. The **peril** we need to look out for. - Hebrews 3:12-13
 - B. The **people** we need to look after. - Hebrews 3:13; 10:24-25
 - C. The **past** we need to look back to. - Hebrews 3:14-15; I John 2:19
 - D. The **process** we need to look into. - Hebrews 3:16-19
 - 1. From information to **insubordination** – Heb. 3:16; 1 Sam.15:23
Question #1: Who, having heard, rebelled?
Answer #1: Was it not all whom Moses led out of Egypt?
 - 2. From insubordination to **iniquity** - Hebrews 3:17
Question #2: With whom was God angry for forty years?
Answer #2: Was it not *those who sinned*, whose corpses fell in the wilderness?
 - 3. From iniquity to **immovability** - Hebrews 3:18; I Corinthians 10:1-6
Question #3: To whom did He swear that they should not enter His rest?
Answer #3: To those who did not obey!

Small Group Questions

Getting Started

1. Let's start out this week talking about signs and symptoms. When someone is having a physical emergency, their condition is usually evaluated based on signs and symptoms. What is the difference between a sign and a symptom?

2. If someone has a bad heart, physically, what are some of the signs you might see and some of the symptoms they might experience?

Digging Deeper

1. This week we see that some of these early Christians, "...were not willing to throw their whole weight on Jesus." Like the Israelites, they struggled to fully trust in God. Why do you think we often have trouble trusting Jesus?

2. Think of someone you know (no names please 😊) who is having some spiritual heart trouble. What are the signs you see in them that reveal a hardened heart?

3. Now think about a time when you've suffered from a hardened heart. What were the symptoms of your spiritual heart condition? How did your hardened heart manifest itself in your life?

4. Read some of the following passages and talk about what they reveal in us when we have hardened hearts.
Exodus 17:1-7 (Deuteronomy 6:13-18); Numbers 13:26-14:4; Psalm 106:6-14; Jeremiah 7:22-26

5. Sometimes we don't trust Jesus because we are too busy trusting something, or someone, else. We turn away from Him in order to turn toward something else. What are some of the things we are tempted to turn toward and trust in, instead of Jesus?.

6. We learn this week that one remedy for "spiritual heart failure" is encouragement from other Christ followers. Read Hebrews 10:24-25 and brainstorm some ways that we can help each other: (1) be on guard against unbelief and (2) keep our attention turned toward God.

Bringing it Home

1. Pastor Jeremiah talked about "today words" versus "tomorrow responses." Are there some "today words" you've been hearing from God, but putting off for some kind of "tomorrow response" from you? How does procrastinating affect the condition of your heart toward God?

2. Encouragement helps build a trusting heart. What kind of encouragement from others helps keep your attention aimed fully on Jesus? Who is God asking you to encourage today? Sometime this week meditate on Psalm 78:1-8 and ask God to help you see how you can practice this as a life-habit.