

Who Will You Imitate?

Hebrews 3



Along

1. Have a hero who you will imitate.

Vv.1-6

2. Your hero must finish well. Vv.7-18

Notice to whom is the author speaking?

A. The Recipient's Description. v. 1a

A1. Holy Brethren (pl) (vs. 1,12)

Believers are spiritually related to one another. How? 2:11 tells us “For both He who sanctifies (makes holy) and those who are sanctified (Holy) are all from one Father (origin); for which reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brethren.” He’s tying us all together, and then he is tying us up to God. It is God who has made us holy and it is God who has pulled us together now as brethren or family.

A1. Holy Brethren (pl) (vs. 1,12)

A2. Sharers in the heavenly calling

The ones to whom he is speaking are a part of a HOLY FAMILY who have a *spiritual DESTINY and a earthly DUTY.*

**B. The Believer's Duty – fix your thoughts
on Jesus who is the apostle and high
priest of our confession. v. 1b**

B1. Jesus understand the missional purpose of His life. Apostle means “sent one.” Jesus was constantly driven by the missional purpose of his incarnation. He was constantly saying, “I have a mission given to me by my Father, I must be about that work.” John 3:17,34; 5:23, 36ff; 6:29,44,57; 7:29; 8:18,42; 17:3; 10:36; 11:42; 17:3; 1 Jn. 4:10,14.

B2. He is our chief priest? His purpose is to bridge the gap between God and man not just relationally but in a deeper sense, judicially, for **2:17** “he makes propitiation for our sins.”

By using these two terms, apostle and high priest, it is proper to assume that in Christ the functions of Moses and Aaron are combined, both in an infinitely superior form.

B3. He had a devotion to His missional calling.

V. 2 “He was faithful to the one who appointed him,”

C. Jesus and Moses are worthy examples to imitate. vs. 2-6

Jesus and Moses are similar in character but contrasted in their position of honor and glory.

What is the similarity between Moses and Jesus? 2:17, 3:5-6

They are alike in “*faithfulness*”.

Previously in 2:17 Jesus is declared “a *faithful* high priest in the service of God”.

Now v. 6 he is *faithful* as a Son over God’s house. In vv. 2, 5 Moses is declared *faithful* as a steward in all God’s house”.

How is Jesus superior to Moses?

Jesus has more honor and glory than Moses, first, as the builder has more glory than the building **vs. 3-4**, and second as the “son over the house” has more honor than the “steward in the house” **vs. 5-6**.

WARNING

2. The Second warning: The peril of imitating the children of Israel in the wilderness. **vs. 3:7-18**

WARNING

WARNING

2. The Second warning: The peril of falling away from the living God. The exposition of **Psalm 95:7-11**

WARNING

Who am I going to imitate?

We have set before us

1. **Vs. 2-5**, Two great examples of faithfulness, Jesus and Moses

2. The unbelieving wilderness generation

vv. 7-18

We are to imitate the faithful steward and the Son, not the Israelites in the wilderness!

Remind yourself again to whom is he speaking?

v. 1

v. 6b

We are his house

It is the believers to whom the letter is addressed. **Paul** and **Peter** means exactly the same thing when they speak of the “household of faith” “Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow-citizens with God's people and members of God's household,”

Gal. 6:10. Eph. 2:19. 1 Pet. 4:17

The Doctrine

F.F. Bruce “The repeated insistence of our epistle is the fact that continuance in the Christ life is the test of reality. The doctrine of the final perseverance of the saints has as its corollary the teaching that the saints are the people who persevere to the end....

The doctrine of the final perseverance of the saints has two substantial parts:

First, We have observed that Jesus saves to the uttermost those whom the Father has given Him. His death is sufficient to save and keep those for whom he died.

John 6:44 “No one can come to Me, unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.” **Jn. 10:27-28** “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.”

Second, By God's preserving grace, those for whom Jesus died will remain faithful to Him to the end, they will persevere.

3:6 ...we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.

3:14 We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.

4:1 ...since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest one of you be found to have fallen short of it.

FF Bruce “...A man whose profession of faith is contradicted by the quality of his life should examine himself to see whether he is a Christian at all, **2 Cor. 13:5**. Security in Christ does not absolve one from personal responsibility: quite the contrary, for the regenerate man is under total obligation to God. Seriousness in believing should manifest itself in seriousness concerning doctrine and conduct.”

Paul says, “Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you-- unless indeed you fail the test?”

2 Cor. 13:5

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Vv. 7-11 *Therefore just as the Holy Spirit*
says... and he quotes Psalm 95:7-11

WARNING

Vv. 12, 15 There is an *ever-present* danger of “falling away from the living God.”

Take Care: How do you fall away from Him?

A. **v. 12** by having an sinful unbelieving heart.

B. **V. 13** by letting your heart be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

This is a warning to us :

v.14-15 For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. As it is said, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

Who were those who heard the voice of God and rebelled?

A. **v. 16** They were those were lead by Moses. They experienced all the benefits of the rescue from Egypt, deliverance through the Red Sea, food and water in the wilderness, and received the law at Sinai by
the voice of God.

B. v.17 They are the ones who provoked God by grumbling continually. Grumbling is unbelief.

What was the results?

A. **v. 17** Their bodies were scattered through out the wilderness.

B. **v. 18** They did not enter the rest of God.

C. **v. 19** The reason was unbelief

The Earnest Warning:

4:1-2 Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. ² For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith. *Four Important Lessons Here*

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2. Take inventory of my heart, is it tender to God? vv. 12-13

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3. We are to daily encourage one another toward faith and faithfulness. v. 13, 4:2

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3. We are to daily encourage one another to faith and faithfulness. v. 13, 4:2
4. Fear God for the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom and it ends every other fear. **4:1**