

# Moses and the Messiah

"No Turning Back" (Study of Hebrews) - part 4  
Rabbi Barney Kasdan, November 17th, 2019

## Insights from Hebrews 3:1-19

### I. Both were faithful to their calling (v1-2)

- Consider Yeshua
- Faithful as Moses
- Both Redeemers / Opposition
- Death before total redemption
- We have a calling

### II. Both experienced God's glory (v3-11)

- Moses felt glory
- Yeshua greater glory
- Servant or Son
- Listen to both!

### III. Both challenge us today (v12-19)

- Stay alert
- Don't harden your heart
- Encourage each other
- Deception of Sin
- Not enter the land

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## This Week's Discussion Guide:

Welcome to week 4 of our 5-week small group study through Hebrews 1-4. After this week, we have just one more week before our Holiday break!

At GPC, it is our prayer for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships in the coming weeks.

### Getting Started:

Before we get started with some questions related to last Sunday's message on Hebrews 3:1-19, let's catch up a bit.

What is something encouraging or not so encouraging that happened in the last few days that you can share. Let's take a little time to celebrate with one another and support one another.

In Hebrews 3:1-2, we read that Jesus was faithful to His heavenly Father who appointed him to be our high priest. Looking back, when have you ever been appointed to do something or be a part of something that stretched you? When you were a kid, what was your first 'real responsibility' that you were appointed to that helped you mature?

Throughout the Bible, we are constantly reminded that we are better together. Instead of doing a task all by yourself, when did you wisely appoint someone or ask someone for help to accomplish something that was more than you could handle on your own?

What insights have you learned regarding how to appoint or delegate various tasks to others?

What makes a good appointer or delegator?

In Hebrews 3:3-4, we read that Jesus is described as a 'builder of a house' and in v6 we learn that we are his house that He desires to dwell in by the presence of the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor 3:16, 6:19)

Speaking of building things, what did you enjoy building or putting together when you were younger?

What do you enjoy building, creating, constructing ... as an adult?

Before we start to discuss the passage from last Sunday and dig a little deeper into other passages, let's read Hebrews 3:1-19 again.

From last week's message, what was helpful or encouraging to you related to this passage?

Was there a question that you thought of after listening to the message we can discuss together? How did Rabbi Barney's Jewish background provide some helpful insights as he shared with us?

Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged you or raised a question for you?

## **Digging Deeper:**

Let's read again Hebrews 3:12-13. In v12, we are reminded that no one is immune to struggling spiritually and even falling away for a season from walking with God. An 'unbelieving heart' means that we choose to believe (trust in) something or someone else rather than placing our faith in God. When we replace God for something or someone else as "top spot" in our lives, idols creep into our lives.

An idol can be something that is clearly wrong or it can be a good thing that we have made more important than God. Can you think of one or two good things that could become an idol to us if we are not careful?

In v13, we are reminded of the need to encourage each other often. Can you think of a time in your life when someone provided some biblical encouragement that helped you avoid making a bad decision or choosing to sin?

What did they do or say that caused you to listen to their input?

Throughout history, every human has struggled with sin's ability to deceive us starting with Adam and Eve. One example of this is a soldier by the name of Achan who disobeyed God by taking some plunder after Israel conquered Jericho. His disobedience resulted in a costly defeat for the Israelites. He explains why he did this in Joshua 7:20-21. What similarities and differences do you see in Achan's decision to sin compared to the process of sin described in James 1:13-15?

Looking at each of the steps into sin from these two passages, can you think of anything a person could do at each stage to prevent the process from moving to the next stage?

The writer of Hebrews is wanting to encourage those that this letter is written to. It is important for all of us to develop the kind of relationships where we are able to encourage one another daily (Hebrews 3:13).

This kind of relationship can't happen in a large group of casual acquaintances and strangers. It takes a smaller group of people (like our small groups :) who are committed to one another.

Looking at the attitudes and actions in Philippians 2:1-4, how could each one serve to help create a community where we can be genuinely known, lovingly supported and honestly challenged?

In these four verses, which attitude or action do you think is most important for creating an encouraging community?

Which attitude or action found in this passage is hardest for you to maintain or put into practice?

Lastly, Hebrews 3 offers us a reminder that we all can be deceived if not careful. How do the following passages provide insights in preventing us from falling to deception?

Psalm 1:1-3

Psalm 9:12-14

Proverbs 12:15

John 16:12-14

Even though these resources mentioned in these passages are always available to everyone, why do you think so many people forget or ignore them when it comes to resisting temptation?

## **Wrapping Up:**

Looking back at this week's teaching and study, what is one thing you would especially like to remember until we meet up again next week?

Before we wrap up, let's share some prayer requests and pray for each other. We are better together!