### Outline

Psalm 95:7-11 (NASB) <sup>7</sup> For He is our God, And we are Intro: the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand. Today, if you would hear His voice, <sup>8</sup> Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, As in the day of Massah in the wilderness, <sup>9</sup> "When your fathers tested Me, They tried Me, though they had seen My work. <sup>10</sup> "For forty years I loathed that generation, And said they are a people who err in their heart, And they do not know My ways. <sup>11</sup> "Therefore I swore in My anger, Truly they shall not enter into My rest."

(See also Exodus 17:1-7; Numbers 13:25-29; 13:30-33; 14:1-4,20-23)

of a Hardened Heart

A. A Heart That Doesn't

Hebrews 3:7 (NASB) <sup>7</sup> Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE

A Heart That Massah = rebel orΒ. provoked Meribah = testing Hebrews 3:8 (NASB) <sup>8</sup> DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME, AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS, Hebrews 3:9 (NASB) <sup>9</sup> WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED Me BY TESTING Me, AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS. Hebrews 3:10 (NASB) <sup>10</sup> "THEREFORE I WAS ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION, AND SAID, 'THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART, AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS'; Hebrews 3:15 (NASB) <sup>15</sup> while it is said, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME."

### C. A Heart That \_\_\_\_\_ Without Remorse

Hebrews 3:13 (NASB) <sup>13</sup> But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. Hebrews 3:17 (NASB) <sup>17</sup> And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? Hebrews 3:18 (NASB) <sup>18</sup> And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient.



of a Hardened Heart

A. A Heart That Is

Hebrews 3:13 (NASB) <sup>13</sup> But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

B. A Heart That Doesn't Experience

Hebrews 3:11 (NASB) <sup>11</sup> AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, 'THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.'" Hebrews 3:18 (NASB) <sup>18</sup> And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient. Hebrews 3:19 (NASB) <sup>19</sup> So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.

C. A Heart That is

Hebrews 3:12 (NASB) <sup>12</sup> Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. Hebrews 3:19 (NASB) <sup>19</sup> So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.

D. A Heart That is \_\_\_\_\_1 Corinthians 10:1-14

Hebrews 3:12 (NASB) <sup>12</sup> Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.



of a Soft Heart

- A. A Heart That Listens and \_\_\_\_\_ (James 1:22-25; Matthew 7:24-27)
- B. A Heartto Sin (Psalm 51:1-13)C. A HeartBy Others

Hebrews 3:13 (NASB) <sup>13</sup> But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

D. A Heart That \_\_\_\_\_ God Faithfully to the \_\_\_\_\_ (Faith – Belief)

Hebrews 3:14 (NASB) <sup>14</sup> For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end, See also Matthew 10:22; 24:13-14;

Deuteronomy 1:32-36 (NASB) <sup>32</sup> "But for all this, you did not trust the LORD your God, <sup>33</sup> who goes before you on your way, to seek out a place for you to encamp, in fire by night and cloud by day, to show you the way in which you should go. <sup>34</sup> "Then the LORD" heard the sound of your words, and He was angry and took an oath, saying, <sup>35</sup> 'Not one of these men, this evil generation, shall see the good land which I swore to give your fathers, <sup>36</sup> except Caleb the son of Jephunneh; he shall see it, and to him and to his sons I will give the land on which he has set foot, because he has followed the LORD fully.'

Conclusion: Ezekiel 36:25-26 (NASB) <sup>25</sup> "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. <sup>26</sup> "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

#### Message slides:

# Jesus Is More

### **The Book of Hebrews**

# The State of the Heart

### Hebrews 3:7-19 (NASB)

### I. Formation of a Hardened Heart

## Formation of a Hardened Heart A. A Heart That Doesn't Listen



# <sup>7</sup> Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,

# Formation of a Hardened HeartA. A Heart That Doesn't ListenB. A Heart That Rebels



# <sup>8</sup> DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME, AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS,



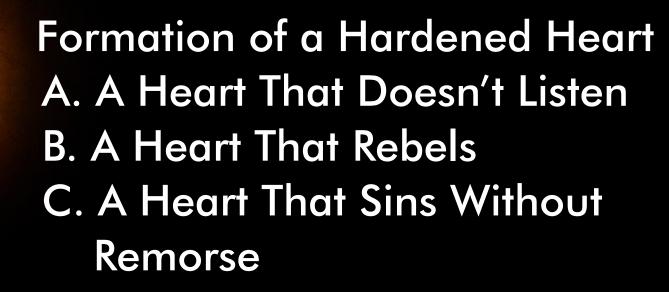
# <sup>9</sup> WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED Me BY TESTING Me, AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS.



# <sup>10</sup> "THEREFORE I WAS ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION, AND SAID, 'THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART, AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS';

### Hebrews 3:15 (NASB)

<sup>15</sup> while it is said, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME."



## Hebrews 3:13 (NASB)

<sup>13</sup> But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

## Hebrews 3:17 (NASB)

<sup>17</sup> And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?

### Hebrews 3:18 (NASB)

<sup>18</sup> And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient?

# I. Formation of a Hardened HeartII. Consequences of a Hardened Heart

# Formation of a Hardened Heart Consequences of a Hardened Heart A. A Heart That is Deceived

## Hebrews 3:13 (NASB)

<sup>13</sup> But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

**Formation of a Hardened Heart Consequences of a Hardened** Heart A. A Heart That is Deceived **B.** A Heart That Doesn't **Experience Rest** 



# <sup>11</sup> AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, 'THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.'''

### Hebrews 3:18 (NASB)

<sup>18</sup> And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient?



# <sup>19</sup> So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.

**Formation of a Hardened Heart Consequences of a Hardened** Heart A. A Heart That is Deceived **B.** A Heart That Doesn't **Experience** Rest C. A Heart That is Unbelieving

## Hebrews 3:12 (NASB)

<sup>12</sup> Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.



# <sup>19</sup> So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.

**Formation of a Hardened Heart Consequences of a Hardened** Heart A. A Heart That is Deceived **B.** A Heart That Doesn't **Experience Rest** C. A Heart That is Unbelieving D. A Heart That is Falling Away

## Hebrews 3:12 (NASB)

<sup>12</sup> Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. Formation of a Hardened Heart
Consequences of a Hardened Heart
Formation of a Soft Heart

# Formation of a Hardened Heart Consequences of a Hardened Heart Formation of a Soft Heart A Heart That Listens & Obeys

# **Formation of a Hardened Heart** II. Consequences of a Hardened Heart III. Formation of a Soft Heart A. A Heart That Listens & Obeys **B.** A Heart Sensitive To Sin

**Formation of a Hardened Heart** Consequences of a Hardened Heart III. Formation of a Soft Heart A. A Heart That Listens & Obeys **B.** A Heart Sensitive To Sin C. A Heart Encouraged By Others

## Hebrews 3:13 (NASB)

<sup>13</sup> But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

**Formation of a Hardened Heart** II. Consequences of a Hardened Heart III. Formation of a Soft Heart A. A Heart That Listens & Obeys **B.** A Heart Sensitive To Sin C. A Heart Encouraged By Others D. A Heart That Trusts God Faithfully to the End

## Hebrews 3:14 (NASB)

<sup>14</sup> For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end,

## Ezekiel 36:26 (NASB)

<sup>26</sup> "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

### Questions

- 1. Does your family have a history of heart conditions? What types?
- 2. How does a doctors advice about how your live and treat your heart apply spiritually to your heart?
- 3. Reading Exodus 17:1-7, what strikes you about the Israelites response to God in the wilderness after He did such a great series of miracles in delivering them from the Egyptians?
- 4. How does not listening nor heeding God's voice and Word harden our hearts?
- 5. What surprises you about a person whose heart rebels against God? What would you tell them to do as an alternative to rebelling?

#### Questions (continued)

- 6. How does sin deceive the heart?
- 7. How does sin harden the heart?
- 8. What does rest in our passage refer to (see also Hebrews 4:1-11)? How many different types of rest are mentioned in our passage today? Why is rest important to the emotional and spiritual condition of our hearts? How does anxiety, fear, sadness, etc. rob our heart of rest? What is the connection to faith and rest?
- 9. Was the book of Hebrews written to Christians or non-Christians? Was Corinthians written to Christians or non-Christians (See 1 Corinthians 10:1-14 as a cross-reference to the Psalm 95 and Exodus 17 passages)? What do these verses imply?

#### Questions (continued)

10. Can Christians begin to turn their hearts to unbelief? Can Christians fall away from the faith, as this passage states? Does warning a Christian imply that the danger of falling away is a possibility? Have a healthy, respectful discussion about this question. Use scripture to support your belief.

11. Pastor Randy gives several helps in forming a soft heart (a heart that listens and obeys, a heart sensitive to sin, a heart encouraged by others, a heart that trusts God faithfully to the end). Of these 4, which one speaks to you as being the most important in maintaining a soft, pliable, teachable, humble heart to God and His Word? Why?

### Questions (continued)

- 12. Think of a time when a Christian friend encouraged your faith. What did this person do to help you?
- 13. What can you do to ensure that your faith will endure?
- 14. What routine can you set up and follow over the next month to help soften your heart toward God?
- 15. Do you need a heart transplant like Ezekiel 36:25-26 speaks of? Do Christians ever need to have this as well?