Epistle to the Hebrews

Chapter 3 Notes

I. Key Thought

This chapter brings a very clear distinction between the ministries and roles of Moses---as opposed to Jesus---as deliverers of God's people. Also, this chapter focuses on the critical nature of faith and quick obedience each day.

II. Chapter Schematic

1. Jesus is always to be considered carefully as the faithful _____of our life.
*"Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, **consider** the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus…"* **Hebrews 3:1 (NKJV)**

SEE II Corinthians 5:15-20

2. Jesus is to be viewed as the _____ of human lives, far surpassing Moses.
"For Jesus was faithful to God, who appointed him, just as Moses served faithfully when he was entrusted with God's entire house. But Jesus deserves far more glory than Moses, just as a person who builds a house deserves more praise than the house itself. For every house has a builder, but the one who built everything is God." **Hebrews 3:2-4 (NLT)**

- **In our previous Chapter study, the writer has already asserted the Superiority of Jesus to the Prophets, then the angels—and now, we will see in this chapter---to Moses.**
- **This was no small feat in that the Jews considered Moses to be their ultimate hero. To him was given the Law. In fact, in people's minds, he and the Law were one. (SEE Numbers 12:4-10)**
- **It would have unimaginable for a Jew to believe that anyone stood in closer position to Yahweh than Moses, so a case had to be built for the Jewish mind---like an attorney would. (SEE DUETERONOMY 18:15-18)**

3. Every believer is to be blessed by knowing the highest position of the "_____"purchased by Jesus Christ---far above even Solomon's Temple.
*"And Moses indeed was faithful in God's house **as a servant**, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, 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."* **Hebrews 3:5-6 (NKJV)**

- **Moses was an honored servant in God's house---nevertheless it was a subservient idea here.**
- **The Kingdom that Moses reigned over (or served in was supposed to act as a miniature representation of greater things to come. The "Holy of Holies" on earth, for example, was but a representation of the seat of power and Glory that Jesus now holds seated at the right hand of majesty!**
- **The tabernacle/temple foreshadowed the future of Priestly activity by Jesus**
- **We are called to persevere to the end in courage, confidence and hope!**

4. We are make conscious choices of _____ every day, living with an acute awareness of the negative experiences of past generations clearly in our sights.
*"Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness, where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, and saw My works forty years. Therefore I was angry with that generation and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and **they have not known My ways**.' So I swore in My wrath, **'They shall not enter My rest**.' "*
Hebrews 3:7-11 (NKJV)

SEE Exodus 17:7; and Numbers 13-14; 20

5. We must encourage our fellow believers concerning the _____ of sin.
"See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today", so that none of you may be hardened by the utter deceitfulness of sin. For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ." **Hebrews 3:12-14**

6. There will always be a _____ when the acts, behavior and an arrogant attitudes of believers causes them to lose what may have been theirs---at one time---in Christ.
*"As has just been said: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion." Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt? And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, **whose corpses fell in the desert**? And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed? **So we see that they were not able to enter His promised rest, because of their unbelief**."*
Hebrews 3:15-19

- **They didn't believe in God's help and continued proven faithfulness to His people**
- **They didn't believe in His provision**
- **They didn't believe in His power for them regarding the conquering of the enemies in the Promised land**

Chapter 3---Answer Key:

1. High Priest 2. superior deliverer 3. God's House

4. faith, obedience and gratitude 5. deceitful nature 6. tragic set of consequences