

Hebrews 3:14-19

“**For some when they had heard, did provoke...**” (vs 16) Not all who came out of Egypt believed, but they all heard.

- Remember the parable of the sower. Many people hear the word without believing it.
 - Examples:
 - Herod loved to hear John the Baptist preach. He didn't believe.
 - Judas Iscariot preached the word and followed Jesus, but he didn't believe.
 - Many church-goers love to attend church, but they don't believe.
- When you “**hold the beginning of your confidence steadfast unto the end**” (vs 14), you prove that you have truly believed.

“**Howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.**” (vs 16). Some Hebrews were older when they left Egypt and died naturally of old age without angering God (vs 17).

They tempted God ten times with unbelief (See **Numbers 14:22-24**).

1. At the Red Sea (Exod. 14).
2. At Marah (Exod 15).
3. In the wilderness (Exod 16).
4. About the manna (Exod 16).
5. About the manna again (Exod 16).
6. At Rephidim about no water (Exod 17)
7. At Horeb with the golden calf (Exod 32).
8. At Taberah (Num 11).
9. At Kibroth-hattaavah (Num 11).
10. At Kadesh (Num 14).

- They gave up relative comfort in Egypt for a freedom that left them with nothing (no vegetables, no meat, no houses, no protection).
 - Freedom is frightening for those who have never had it.
 - The Hebrews in the wilderness had to believe that the Promised Land would be worth the hardships they would face until they got there.
 - The Hebrews in the New Testament had to believe that whatever they gave up, whatever they suffered to follow Jesus would be worth it eventually.
 - The purpose of the letter to the Hebrews is to urge them not to turn back or they'll miss out on how good it's going to be if they continue with Jesus.

WHY SOME PEOPLE GIVE UP ON JESUS IN THE EARLY STAGES OF THEIR SALVATION (GAL 6:7-9)

- Getting saved doesn't erase the consequences of the sin you sowed while you were lost.
- You'll be reaping what you sowed (bad things will be happening) in a time when you expect Jesus to make your life a blessing.
- You started sowing to the spirit when you got saved, and would have begun reaping good things from that, but you gave up too soon.
- Once you've reaped the consequences of sin, even though you dropped out and quit on the Lord, you'll start enjoying some good things for a while. That will convince you that God isn't mad at you.

18-19 Unbelief is what kept the Hebrews out of the Promised Land. They never believed.

Notes on chapter 3:

Negative verses: 3:8, “**harden not.**” 3:10, “**not known my ways.**” 3:11, “**not enter in.**” 3:13, “**hardened.**” 3:15, “**harden not your hearts.**” 3:18, “**not enter into rest.**” 3:19, “**not enter in.**” 4:2, “**not profit them.**” 4:6, “**entered not in.**” 4:7, “**harden not your hearts.**”

CALLING: “**The heavenly calling**” (3:1) “**calling**” is found over 50 times in the New Testament.

- It describes the order of life and the being into which God has created a creature.
 - Angels were created into the angelic state and mode of being. That is their calling.
 - We are called to be saints (Rom. 1:7, 8:30, 1 Cor. 1:2).

- We have a holy calling, not according to our works (2 Timothy 1:9). You are called after you are saved.
- The Corinthian church were carnal babes, but they were called to be saints (1 Cor 1:2, 8).
- Believers are called to be part of a race of beings who have eternal life through Jesus Christ. Walk worthy of that calling (Ephesians 4:1, 2 Thess. 1:11-12).
- 2 Peter 1:1, 3, 5-8 instructs the saint how to enjoy their calling as a saint.