

Starting Well, Ending in Disaster

(Sermon 9 in the Hebrews Series)

Hebrews 3:6-15

I. Hardening the Heart Heb. 3:7-8

To harden the heart is a metaphor to describe a refusal to obey God.

Psalm 95

1-7a – A call to worship

7b-11 – A warning not to follow their forefathers

v. 8 -- rebellion and trial.

It could be translated, “*do not harden your hearts as they did at Meribah, as in that day at Massah in the desert.*”

See also Exodus 17:2, 7

II. The Downward Spiral of Unbelief Heb. 3:9-11

1. Negativity

2. Grumbling

3. Contention

James 3:16 -- *For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.*

4. Disobedience

5. The Judgment of God.

Moses as Priest – Numbers 14:11-19

God heard – but consequences remained -- Num. 14:20-24

Their carcasses will fall in the wilderness – Num. 14:26-35

III. The Application Heb. 3:12-15

1. Guard your heart. v. 12

2. Exhort one another v. 13

3. Persevere v. 14