



5) Reading through the end of verse 1, we see the only place in all of Scripture where the title of “**Apostle**” is used of Jesus. The word means, “**one sent with a special commission.**” Briefly state in your own words what Jesus’ commission was. (Look again at verse 1. What else does the writer call Jesus in this verse?)

6) What was Moses’ commission? (See Exodus 3:7-10 & Exodus 19:7-10 for insight)

Next to Abraham, Moses was the man most honored by the Jewish people. To look to the Law was to look to Moses. This was actually what the recipients of this letter were being tempted to do ----- to fall back into trusting in the Law rather than moving forward in their trust in Christ. The writer of Hebrews is seeking to open the eyes of these Jewish Christians and convince them that Jesus Christ is **far greater** than Moses.

7) Describe in your own words how Moses’ commission is **a picture** of Christ’s commission.

a. Now, explain why the commission of Christ is far superior.

- 8) Verse 1 also tells us to “**consider**” the Apostle and High Priest of our confession. To “**consider**” means more than just taking a brief glance. It means to “**fix our attention; to give careful consideration to; to come into a full understanding of.**” Reading on to the first half of verse 2, what is to be one of the main **focal points of our consideration** when we look at Christ?
- 9) Reading from verses 2-6, explain the **difference** between Moses faithfulness and Christ’s.
- 10) Look up **Exodus 32:30-32** and **John 3:16-17**. How does this example in Exodus of the **servant**, Moses, and the love and compassion he had toward the children of Israel strengthen your confidence in the love and compassion of Christ toward us? Share what thoughts this brings to mind.
- 11) Read **verse 6** again. Cross-reference this verse with **Ephesians 2:8 & 9**. Do you think the “**if**” clause of verse 6 is a **condition** being placed on our gift of salvation ----- or do you think it is an **outward proof** that we are a part of the household of faith ----- much like the way that “loving one another” (John 13:34 & 35) is a proof to the world that we are Christ’s disciples? Share your thoughts.

- 12)** Read **verses 7-11**. The writer exhorts his fellow Jewish believers (and us) not to harden our hearts against hearing God's voice, the way that the children of Israel did in the "day of **provocation**" [KJV], or the "rebellion" / "day of trial" [NKJV] Read **Exodus 17:1-7**. See also **Deuteronomy 6:16** and **Psalms 95:7-11**. After reading these verses, explain in your own words what the "**day of provocation**" or "rebellion" & "**day of trial**" is.
- 13)** Glancing down to **Hebrews 3:12**, what exactly was Israel's sin?
- 14)** Look at **Hebrews 3:9 & 10**. Record **why** God was so grieved with them.
- 15)** The wilderness wanderings can be likened to a picture of the Christian's experiences throughout our earthly pilgrimage. Share what proofs God has revealed to you concerning His love. What works has He done in your life that has confirmed His faithfulness?
- a)** In what areas do you fall into unbelief, or a doubting of God's promises to you? Can you share with the group what triggers those doubting thoughts?

b) State in your own words from **verse 10b** why this grieves God's heart so much.

16) What was the consequence of Israel's doubting God (verse 11)?

17) What do you think this means, and how might this relate to us, as believers?

18) We saw in chapter two the first of the **five admonitions** stated in this letter to the Hebrew Christians, which was **drifting** from God's Word because of **neglect** (2:1-4). Here in **Hebrews 3:12**, we see the **second admonition**, which is **doubting & disbelieving** God's Word, due to a **hardened heart**. Read Hebrews 3:12-19. Looking at **verse 13**, record the **reason** it says our hearts become hardened.

a) Explain in your own words **how** and **why** you think this happens.

- 19)** Going back to **verse 13a**, write down one of the “safe guards” against our hearts becoming hardened.
- 20)** Have you experienced this “safe guard” in your life? Can you share how you have been encouraged in this way from your heart becoming hard?
- 21)** Look ahead to Hebrews 10:25 and explain how this verse relates to the “safeguard” of Hebrews 3:13a.
- 22)** In Hebrews 3:14 we are told that we have become “partakers” of Christ. Look up the following verses and jot down some of the things they say we have become partakers in:
- 2 Cor. 1:7 –
- Ephesians 3:6 -
- Philippians 1:7 –
- Colossians 1:12 -
- Hebrews 6:4 -
- Hebrews 12:10 -
- 2 Peter 1:4 -

As we move on to the end of our chapter the writer reiterates the warnings of verses 7-11. It's important for us to know that there are really **three "rests"** that Scripture speaks to us about. The **first** is God's **Sabbath rest** (Genesis 2:2; Hebrews 4:4), when God ceased from His work of creation. The **third** is that of a **future rest** (Revelation 14:13), which we will have upon leaving this earthly body and the toil of our earthly pilgrimage when we enter into the "house" that's been prepared for us in our heavenly home. But the rest being discussed in Hebrews 3:11 & 18 is **Canaan rest**.

The first rest --- Sabbath rest --- is a picture of our **salvation**. The third rest --- future rest --- is the **"expectation of our hope,"** the victory of crossing the finish line and being "forever with the Lord". But this **second rest** ----- Canaan rest ----- is the one we must give heed to. Canaan is not a picture of heaven. It is a picture of our **inheritance** ----- an inheritance we possess eternally, beginning **here and now**. Canaan rest, then, is the **rest of submission**; a rest of **trusting in God's will for our lives, and in His faithfulness**.

**20)** As you think about this **submission rest** that the Israelites could not enter into because of doubt, rebellion and unbelief, share how God is speaking to your heart. What instruction or encouragement is He speaking to you from this lesson that you can "exhort" us in today?