

NORTH WAY

notes & outline

NOTES:

HEBREWS | WEEK 4

“Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, ... Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”

Hebrews 3:7-8,12-13

The writer is saying: Take care, brothers and sisters. That same evil, unbelieving heart which you despised in the ancient Israelites can be in you, in *any* of you.

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?”

Jeremiah 17:9

“Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.”

Proverbs 4:23

“And he said, ‘What comes out of a person is what defiles him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’”

Mark 7:20-23

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Hard/Unbelieving Heart:

- unwilling to trust & obey God's voice
- unmoved by the things that moved Jesus' heart
- uninterested in your need for and connection to people

10 Warning Signs of a Hardening Heart

1. You regularly are bitter, sarcastic, offended, or sharp.

“They said to Moses, ‘Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness?’”

Exodus 14:11

2. You stop listening to people who can and want to help.
3. You struggle in understanding God.

“And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, ‘Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened?’”

Mark 8:17

4. The meaningful has become mechanical.
5. You are indifferent to sinfulness.

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“Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.”

Ephesians 4:17-19

6. You refuse to forgive.

“Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.’”

Romans 12:17-19

7. You no longer believe the best about people.

“Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

1 Corinthians 13:7

8. There is a growing distance between you and Jesus’ church and His followers.

9. You move at the pace of life and not the pace of love.

10. You’ve lost grace for differing viewpoints.

There’s no neutral when it comes to our heart. We are either moving toward God or toward “Egypt”.

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“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

Hebrews 4:12

Exhort - to strongly encourage someone to do something.

Encourage - to inspire or fill with courage

“I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him! Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows. “And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God, but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God.””

Luke 12:4-9

Jesus Reminds them:

- Of who God is
- Of how God sees them
- Of what God calls us do

The secret to steadfast endurance is to replace trying harder with looking closer.

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“I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

John 16:33

“A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.”

Proverbs 17:22