

# THE WORD OF GOD IS ALIVE AND ACTIVE

September 1, 2013 Hebrews 3.1-4.13

by Bill Jackson

<sup>18</sup> Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

<sup>3:1</sup> Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, **fix your thoughts (eyes) on Jesus**, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest. <sup>2</sup> **He was faithful** to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. **Hebrews 2:18-3:2**

## 1. WARNING AGAINST UNBELIEF

<sup>7</sup> So, as the Holy Spirit says:

"Today, if you hear his voice,

<sup>8</sup> do not harden your hearts

as you did in the rebellion,

during the time of testing in the wilderness,

<sup>9</sup> where your ancestors tested and tried me,

though for forty years they saw what I did.

<sup>10</sup> That is why I was angry with that generation;

I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray,  
and they have not known my ways.'

<sup>11</sup> So I declared on oath in my anger,

'They shall never enter my rest.'

<sup>12</sup> See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.

<sup>13</sup> But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called

"Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's

deceitfulness. <sup>14</sup> We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end.

**Hebrews 3:7-14**

## 2. A SABBATH-REST FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

<sup>4:1</sup> Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. <sup>2</sup> For we also have had the good news proclaimed to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because they did not share the faith of those who obeyed. <sup>3</sup> Now we who have believed enter that rest...

<sup>6</sup> Therefore since it still remains for some to enter that rest, and since those who formerly had the good news proclaimed to them did not go in because of their disobedience, <sup>7</sup> God again set a certain day, calling it "Today." This he did when a long time later he spoke through David, as in the passage already quoted:

**"Today, if you hear his voice,  
do not harden your hearts." Hebrews 4:1-7**

Sin Progression	As seen in the story	Explanation
WoG	"take, eat, live"/ "do not eat or you will surely die"	WoG is true
Doubt	"Did God say?"	How do I know WoG is true?
Fear (primary)	Assumed	Primary fear; am I safe?
Distortion	"we must not touch it"	Adding or subtracting from WoG = WoS
Substitute Word	"You will not die"	Which word to believe?
Pride	"pleasing, easy, able"	Sin is glittery
Transgression	"she...ate / he ate"	Was it good for you?
Guilt	Assumed	sin becomes Sin
Shame	"they saw they were naked"	Shame is a byproduct of sin
Fear (secondary)	"I was afraid"	Fear is the governing human emotion
Self-protection	"so I hid"	We relate behind masks

## 3. THE WORD OF GOD

**A.** The Word of God is **Life** (zon)

**B.** The Word of God is **Active** (energes)

**C.** The Word of God is **Sharp**

**D.** The Word of God is **Today**.