



TODAY



SOME CONTEXT

- Hebrews 3 & 4 is a passage that draws a connection between the failures of Israel in the wilderness (Exodus 17, for example) and the danger Christians face in falling away from the faith.
- The writer quotes Psalm 95 to show man's tendency to drift away from God in the face of trials. The apostle Paul makes a similar point in 1 Corinthians 10.

“TAKE CARE, BRETHREN” (3:12).

- “Take care” is an important phrase because it tells us that matters pertaining to God are not to be handled casually.
- We are to “take captive” our thoughts unto Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5).
- “But do not let immorality or any impurity or greed even be named among you, as is proper for saints; and there must be no filthiness or silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks” (Ephesians 5:3-4).



**“AN UNBELIEVING
HEART”**




“BUT ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER...” (3:13)

- The phrase “one another” occurs often in the New Testament, emphasizing the importance of our combined strength.
- Romans 12:4-16
- 1 Peter 4:8-10
- 1 Thessalonians 5:11



“AS LONG AS IT IS STILL CALLED ‘TODAY’”

- The truth about this verse is so obvious, since it will always be “today”!
- The sense of urgency (2 Corinthians 6:1-2), therefore, prompts us to not put things off, or worry about unavoidable or immutable facts (Matthew 6:34).
- “Today” is our imperative. It is our mission. We engage with the here and now, without undue concern over the past or future.

A landscape of red sandstone hills with a small waterfall and a stream. The hills are smooth and rounded, with a rich reddish-brown color. A stream flows through the center, cascading over a small waterfall. The sky is blue with some clouds. There are some trees and bushes on the hills.

**“THE
DECEITFULNESS OF
SIN”**

"PARTAKERS OF CHRIST" (3:14)

- The practical application is baptism into Christ, and modeling ourselves after Him (Romans 6:1-11).
- But baptism is just the easy part, for a life of total transformation is expected of the follower (Romans 12:2). Baptism is one of the first steps in a long road that follows the example of Jesus (1 John 2: 3-6, 2 John 5-6).
- "Partaking of Christ" might also include partaking of persecution (John 15:18-19, Philippians 3:10, 1 Peter 3:12-13).



“HOLD FAST”