

## FEATURE BIBLE STUDY (PART 1)

# Hearing Is Not Enough

*A Study of Hebrews 3:16 and the Danger of Unbelief*



*The children of Israel passed through the Red Sea on dry ground (Exodus 14:22).*

**T**he book of Hebrews was written to believers who were facing pressure, persecution, and the temptation to turn away from Christ. The writer warns them not to harden their hearts as did Israel in the wilderness.

In Hebrews 3:16, we read, “For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.” This verse reminds us that hearing God’s Word is not enough. The real question is: What do we do with what we hear?

### 1. ISRAEL HEARD THE WORD

God spoke to Israel through Moses. He gave them the law, His promises, and clear instructions. They heard His voice at Mount Sinai.

*“And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off.”*

Exodus 20:18 (KJV)

*Hearing must lead to believing. Believing must lead to obeying.*

They heard the Word of God, yet many did not believe it. They doubted His promises. They complained. They rebelled.

*“Because there was no faith in him in the sight of the children of Israel.”*

Numbers 14:11 (KJV)

### 2. HEARING WITHOUT BELIEVING LEADS TO PROVOKING

To “provoke” in Scripture means to stir up anger, to irritate, or to rebel against God. When Israel heard God’s Word but refused to believe, they provoked Him.

*“And he sware in his wrath, that they should not enter into his rest.”*

Psalm 95:11 (KJV)

Unbelief kept that entire generation out of the Promised Land. They heard, but they did not trust. They saw the power of God, but they did not rest in His promises.

### OUR THEME VERSE

*“For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.”*

Hebrews 3:16 (KJV)

### KEY TRUTHS

- Hearing Is a Privilege**  
Many hear the Word of God, but not all respond in faith.
- Unbelief Provokes God**  
Unbelief is a form of rebellion that displeases the Lord.
- Faith Brings Rest**  
God’s promise of rest is for those who believe and obey.
- Today Is the Day**  
Do not harden your heart. Respond to God now.

### REFLECTION QUESTION

*Are you hearing God’s Word and responding in faith, or are you hardening your heart as Israel did?*



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*“Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.” Hebrews 3:12 (KJV)*

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