

The Book of Hebrews chapter 3

There were 2 Houses...

And, there were two “Builders”

Hebrews 3:1-19 (NASB) Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession; ² He was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was in all His house. ³ For He has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, by just so much as the builder of the house has more honor than the house. ⁴ For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God. ⁵ **Now Moses was faithful in all His house as a servant**, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later; ⁶ but Christ was faithful **as a Son over His house**—whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.

Moses and Jesus both built a House for God

➤ **Moses was a Servant**

Numbers 12:6-7 (ESV) And he said, “Hear my words: If there is a prophet among you, I the LORD make myself known to him in a vision; I speak with him in a dream. ⁷ Not so with **my servant Moses**. He is faithful in all my house.

➤ **Jesus was a Son**

Hebrews 1:1-2 (ESV) Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² **but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son**, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

Isaiah sees something in the Spiritual Realm...

➤ **Isaiah 66:1 (NIV2011)** This is what the LORD says: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. **Where is the house you will build for me?** Where will my resting place be?”

➤ **A “Son” would build the House**

1 Chronicles 17:1-14 (NIV2011) After David was settled in his palace, he said to Nathan the prophet, “Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of the covenant of the LORD is under a tent.”² Nathan replied to David, “Whatever you have in mind, do it, for God is with you.”³ But that night the word of God came to Nathan, saying:⁴ “Go and tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD says: You are not the one to build me a house to dwell in.’⁵ I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought Israel up out of Egypt to this day. I have moved from one tent site to another, from one dwelling place to another.⁶ Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their leaders whom I commanded to shepherd my people, ‘Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’”⁷ “Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel.⁸ I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name like the names of the greatest men on earth.⁹ And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning¹⁰ and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also subdue all your enemies. “ ‘I declare to you that the LORD will build a house for you:¹¹ When your days are over and you go to be with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom.¹² **He is the one who will build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever.**¹³ **I will be his father, and he will be my son. I will never take my love away from him, as I took it away from your predecessor.**¹⁴ **I will set him over my house and my kingdom forever; his throne will be established forever.’ ”**

➤ **We are the House**

1 Timothy 3:14-15 (NASB) I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long;¹⁵ but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in **the household of God, which is the church of the living God**, the pillar and support of the truth.

➤ **We must hold fast**

Romans 11:17-22 (NLT2) But some of these branches from Abraham's tree—some of the people of Israel—have been broken off. And you Gentiles, who were branches from a wild olive tree, have been grafted in. So now you also receive the blessing God has promised Abraham and his children, sharing in the rich nourishment from the root of God's special olive tree. ¹⁸ But you must not brag about being grafted in to replace the branches that were broken off. You are just a branch, not the root. ¹⁹ "Well," you may say, "those branches were broken off to make room for me." ²⁰ Yes, but remember—those branches were broken off because they didn't believe in Christ, and you are there because you do believe. So don't think highly of yourself, but fear what could happen. ²¹ **For if God did not spare the original branches, he won't spare you either.** ²² **Notice how God is both kind and severe. He is severe toward those who disobeyed, but kind to you if you continue to trust in his kindness. But if you stop trusting, you also will be cut off.**

⁷ Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, (**Psalm 95:6-11**) "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, ⁸ DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME, AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS, ⁹ WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED *Me* BY TESTING *Me*, AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS. ¹⁰ "THEREFORE I WAS ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION, AND SAID, 'THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART, AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS'; ¹¹ AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, 'THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.'"

¹² Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

➤ **Encourage one another**

Hebrews 10:23-25 (NASB) Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; ²⁴ **and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,** ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, **but encouraging one another;** and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

➤ **How do we do that?**

Ephesians 4:17-32 (NLT2) With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. ¹⁸ Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. ¹⁹ They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity. ²⁰ **But that isn't what you learned about Christ.** ²¹ Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, ²² **throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception.** ²³ Instead, **let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes.** ²⁴ **Put on your new nature, created to be like God**—truly righteous and holy. ²⁵ So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. ²⁶ And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ for anger gives a foothold to the devil. ²⁸ If you are a thief, quit stealing. Instead, use your hands for good hard work, and then give generously to others in need. ²⁹ Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them. ³⁰ And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. ³² Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end,

➤ **Hold on until the end**

1 Peter 1:3-9 (NASB) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ **to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,**

⁵ who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, ⁷ so that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ⁸ and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ **obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.**

¹⁵ while it is said, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME." ¹⁶ For who provoked *Him* when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt *led* by Moses? ¹⁷ And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient?

➤ **They were forgiven but...**

Numbers 14:11-24 (ESV) And the LORD said to Moses, "How long will this people despise me? And how long will they not believe in me, in spite of all the signs that I have done among them? ¹² I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they." ¹³ But Moses said to the LORD, "Then the Egyptians will hear of it, for you brought up this people in your might from among them, ¹⁴ and they will tell the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that you, O LORD, are in the midst of this people. For you, O LORD, are seen face to face, and your cloud stands over them and you go before them, in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night. ¹⁵ Now if you kill this people as one man, then the nations who have heard your fame will say, ¹⁶ 'It is because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land that he swore to give to them that he has killed them in the wilderness.' ¹⁷ And now, please let the power of the Lord be great as you have promised, saying, ¹⁸ "The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, forgiving iniquity and transgression, but he will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, to the third and the fourth generation.'

¹⁹ Please pardon the iniquity of this people, according to the greatness of your steadfast love, just as you have forgiven this people, from Egypt until now.” ²⁰ **Then the LORD said, “I have pardoned, according to your word. ²¹ But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD, ²² none of the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice, ²³ shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it. ²⁴ But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it.**

¹⁹ So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.

➤ **Blinded by the devil**

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 (ISV) So if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are dying.
⁴ **In their case, the god of this world has blinded the minds of those who don't believe to keep them from seeing the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God.**