

Jesus Our High Priest

HEBREWS 3:1-11

Article IV: Human Language

- **We affirm** that God who made mankind in his image has used language as a means of revelation.
- **We deny** that human language is so limited by our creatureliness that it is rendered inadequate as a vehicle for divine revelation.
- **We further deny** that the corruption of human culture and language through sin has thwarted God's work of inspiration.

Human Language

- The Transcendence of God (God is totally other)
- How can two beings, who are utterly dissimilar communicate with each other?
- Would all human language about God be meaningless?
- What about the sin of the human authors?
Wouldn't that make the Bible filled with errors?

God's Superintendence of the Bible

- “But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.” (II Peter 1:20-21)

Hebrews 3:1-6

- 3 “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.”

Hebrews 3:7-11

7 Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says,

“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.’”

Hebrews 3:1

- The importance of Moses to the Israelities
- “Therefore” – is in reference to the point made in 2:17
 - ¹⁷ Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
- The audience for this is “Holy brethren” (set apart)
 - Important to remember later in Ch. 3 and in Ch. 6
- Set apart for a heavenly calling (set apart by God)

Consider Jesus

- “Consider Jesus” – observe, ponder, get your mind to lock on to this Jesus
- The Apostle – one sent forth with orders, delegate, ambassador
- The High Priest of our confession – God anointed Jesus to represent humans to Himself

Moses and Jesus

- Jesus counted more worthy than Moses
- Analogy of the house
- The builder has more honor than the house –
“For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.”
 - The Source is greater than the resource
- Moses was faithful in the house (servant) but Christ was faithful as a Son over His house (ruler, king).
- Whose house we are. (people who belong to God – the redeemed people).

Just As the Holy Spirit Said

- V. 7 “Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit said:”
Then follows the quote from Psalm 95:7-11
 - Notice that the true author of the Psalm is the Holy Spirit

Hebrews 3:7-11

- 7 Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says,
- “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.’”

Psalm 95:7-11

7 For He is our God,
And we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
Today, if you would hear His voice,
8 Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, [*Psalm 95:1-7*]
As in the day of Massah in the wilderness,
9 “When your fathers tested Me,
They tried Me, though they had seen My work.
10 “For forty years I loathed that generation,
And said they are a people who err in their heart,
And they do not know My ways.
11 “Therefore I swore in My anger,
Truly they shall not enter into My rest.”

Complaining Against God

- No water test (Meribah)
 - Failed – No faith that God would provide.
 - Failed – Complaining
- The Israelites, instead of believing God – they tested God, they put God on trial
- Prove to us, God, that you love us
- “Therefore I was angry with this generation, and said they always go astray in their hearts”

Complaining

- Complaining about the details of life:
 - No Food (Exodus 16)
 - No Water (Exodus 17)
 - No Security – There are giants in the land
- 11 “These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come.” (I Cor. 10:11)

Complaining

- Complaining about the details of life:
 - No Food (Exodus 16) God gave them the perfect food - Manna
 - No Water (Exodus 17) – God directed Moses to strike the rock and gave them water
 - No Security – There are giants in the land – I the Lord God will give you this land that I promised
- What was God's response about the complaining? (Hebrews 3:10)

They Shall Not Enter My Rest

- They (the people of God) always go astray.
- “and they did not know My ways”
- God in his wrath then says:
- “They shall not enter my rest”
- The people of God – need to enter God’s rest