

In Chapter 1, we get a glimpse of how large and gigantic Jesus really is and how He is above all of creation; there is no one like Him seen or unseen. As such we are able to now understand how great of a salvation we have been given; a salvation that allows us to experience life in this world as an eternal spiritual being who lives free from the controls of the world and the futile life that was passed on to us by our forefathers.

Then in Chapter 2 we were warned not to neglect so great of a salvation and instead to daily live in it. In addition, we studied how precious we are to God and how Jesus has lifted us up above all of creation—all that is seen and unseen—for we are His precious pearl, His lovely bride. In fact, our future is so bright that we will even judge the angels; if you can imagine that.

This leads us to the big “therefore” at the beginning of Chapter 3. Whenever there is a “therefore,” we are always to seek to understand what it is therefore. The point being is that we cannot miss this amazing introduction about who Jesus is, who we are, and therefore how we should live in the here and now.

Hebrews 3:1-6

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession; He was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was in all His house. 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. For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God. Now Moses was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later; 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.

In the introduction, we spent some time on **3:1** as I used this verse to help you understand that the Spirit was addressing this letter to legitimate born-again believers. We know this to be true because the *vocative* tense is used for both “brethren” and the noun “partakers.” As we studied, this tense is a technique used to ensure that we get the point: it is like underlining, highlighting, bolding, and italicizing the word.

The challenge that is being made is therefore a challenge to believers—holy brethren who by their very existence partake of the heavenly calling; for they are partakers (again, it is ***not*** what they do it is what they ***are***). This is important because we cannot make the mistake of thinking the ensuing passage deals with unbelievers for it doesn't. It is dealing with true believers and since they ***are*** partakers of the heavenly calling, we know this passage ***is not*** dealing with their eternal salvation but with their ability to experience eternity here and now; their ability to experience in this life the peace and rest of God.

The Spirit starts by telling us to once again ***consider*** Jesus, the apostle (one who has been sent) and High Priest of our confession. Now we know that Moses was an apostle as he was “sent” by God with a message for the Israelites and Aaron, his brother, was the High Priest. One brother was the messenger and one brother filled the role of mediator between man and God. In contrast to Moses, Jesus does not need any help; He is all that we need. He is the Message, He is the

Messenger, and He is the one and only true Mediator between God and man (**1 Timothy 2:5-6**).

The word “**consider**” is an imperative in the aorist active tense which just means that we are commanded to always—in everything we do—be considering Jesus. There is not a single part of our life that is to be exempt from this consideration. And we do this so that we can always be reminded how big Jesus is and be convinced that He is our **I Am**—that He has a message (or is the Message) for every part of our life, that He is also the Messenger, and that if we happen to forget this truth even then He is the constant Mediator between us and the Father.

We have talked about this notion of “always/in everything” so often; for by definition, faith is always active. Therefore, we must always consider the person of Jesus Christ in everything we do and in all that we are. Now, this is not just some philosophy for life or the tenets of some hyper-religious club; rather, we are dealing with Jesus, the man, who is our life; Jesus who is our substance; Jesus is our provision; Jesus who is our beginning and end. And we need Him especially bearing in mind that the enemy is always **considering** us.

This past week there was another vision for this body where God revealed the ways in which the enemy was going to bring another wave of incredible attack in an attempt to destroy what God is doing here. First, we know from a prior warning that the demons unleashed wolves both within our midst and into our individual lives. I am not absolutely sure, but I hope they are all gone. The attack was horrible as they used fear to try and isolate various people and then tear them apart and devour them with lies. But God was good and faithful for He used

these wolves to reveal the weeds of fear that needed to be uprooted from the garden of our soul so that He could occupy more territory within our hearts; territory that He passionately wanted possess now.

According to this new vision, then enemy is going to use a new strategy and he is going to be releasing black birds which may seem small but according to the vision are even more dangerous. They are quick and dart to and fro and from what I have been able to discern they will attempt to steal away the truth and the word of God from our lives. I believe the specific targets are going to be all of you who are new—those that God has brought into our midst over the past 3-months and have yet to be firmly grounded in all the truth that God has given us over the past 2.5 years.

That is why I believe God in His wisdom asked us to form those small groups where each of you get a chance go through all those teachings and be girded up with His truth which was purposed for this body. It will be your protection from the black birds; so I encourage you, if you are not a part of one of these groups, to get involved. And by all means do not let your pride be a reason why you do not participate. Please do not fall prey to the notion that you have it all down and don't really need to go through all that stuff. We must all beware. They are flying and they will swoop in fast and steal whatever it is that they want. We cannot let them take anyone or anything that God has given us.

And those of you who have been here for a while and have received all that God has given to this body, you need to watch out as I do not believe that these black scavenger birds are all that picky. If you give them the opportunity they will take from you and they will do it fast. Thus, you need to be **considering** Jesus in all

things. Again, there is nothing exempt from this command. You need to live as a spiritual being involved in a spiritual war who just happens to be living in a physical world. But, whatever you do, please do not play around with your flesh, with the world, or with the lies of the enemy that he has told your entire life. Leave it all behind and move forward in who you are in Christ.

As we get into the rest of this passage (Chapters 3 and 4), we are going to discover why **considering** Jesus in everything (all the time) is absolutely critical to our daily experience of eternity. When we forget Him, even for a moment, we start to get everything all backwards and we begin to practically wonder from our great confession—the confession that Jesus is God and we are not. As a result we do not get to live in the peace and rest that Jesus desires for us and we risk a life where we end up wandering around the desert for years and years until we die. That is not the experience Jesus wants you to have.

This next part of the argument which the Spirit makes in this passage is to again remind us how faithful Jesus was, and is, as our **Message, Messenger, and Mediator**; all of which provides us the reasons why we should always **consider** Him and thereby trust ourselves to Him.

Jesus was faithful to the Father; He was faithful as a son in His house (this means He was faithful in each of us). We know from **John 17:4** that He accomplished all the work which the Father gave Him to do; as such He has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses since not only did He create the heavens and the earth (which is a pretty big deal), but He is also the one who created this new family, this new “house” made up of holy brethren partakers of the heavenly calling.

Moses, as far as men go, was pretty amazing. As a servant, he was responsible for freeing the Israelites and instituting their government and administration; but that is all He accomplished. In fact, it is a bit ironic but everything he instituted and the message he brought to the people actually pointed forward to Jesus—for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later. Yes, all that he did and all that he said pointed forward to the Son; the one who is the master builder.

And instead of just building a single nation, the Son has built a family from all peoples, tribes, and tongues throughout the world. And we are that house; we are the temple of God (**1 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 6:16; Ephesians 2:21; 1 Timothy 3:15; 1 Peter 2:4**). As such, Jesus is worthy of our constant consideration.

After the unparalleled introduction in Chapter 1, where it is obvious that Jesus trumps Moses, why does the Spirit once again make a comparison to Moses? You would think that not much more needs to be said. I think the Spirit does this for two reasons. One, because of how hard-headed and stubborn people can be when they don't really want to do what God desires and they find all these reasons (many of them religious) why what they are doing is really ok. So He wants these believers to have no basis, no excuse, to return to any aspect of the law.

Second, the Spirit is setting up a stern exhortation. Will we live by faith and learn to walk by the Spirit of God trusting Jesus with every part of our life or will we live by religion and some semblance of the law? Will we try and make ourselves a "building" worthy of Jesus or will we rest in the fact that He has made us worthy as we are "holy brethren partakers of the heavenly calling?" Will we hold to the things that are merely shadows of the truth or will we root ourselves

in the one and only truth? This is what the remainder of the passage in Chapters 3 and 4 are about.

But before we dive into that, I want to talk for a moment about **3:6**: “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.” “Whose house we are, ***if*** we hold fast until the end.” Does that mean it is up to us to do it right or else we might be kicked out of the house? ***No! That is not what it means.***

Let’s go back to what we do know. The Spirit made it clear in **3:1** that He was writing to brethren who are partakers of the heavenly calling; thus, by definition they are members of the house and therefore to read into this passage some threat would be inconsistent with the larger body of scripture on salvation. But what we do know is that in any gathering of believers there are those who participate but do not really belong. They maybe have said the “prayer” and “all that” and even from an external perspective legitimately sought God as they try and do great things for God, but yet they do not belong to the house. They do not personally know Jesus; they just know about Him. Instead of sons they are still servants.

The Bible captures this sad reality in 3 main passages. First, we know that there are false prophets who come to a body in “sheep’s clothing” but inwardly are ravenous wolves (***Matthew 7:15-20***). These are those who attempt to tear about the house of God from the inside out and we are told that we will know them by their fruit as they will be simply unable to produce the fruit of God’s agape love. They may look like believers, but their lives will bear the fruit of tearing, biting, and division. They will be the ones who try and instill fear in others and not faith.

Second, there are those who seem in every way shape and form like they are a part of us (part of the household of God) but they do not hold fast to their confidence and hold firm until the end. John addresses this in **1 John 2:18-19** where he says: “Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us.”

This situation is obviously tricky. I am sure that while these people were in the body John just dealt with them as if they were just regular believers struggling in their walk; which is all he could do. But the fact that they left and went on to do “whatever” proved that they were never really of us, never really of the household of God as by their choice to refuse to continue to follow Him they in effect deny that Jesus is the Son; they don’t think He is worth following. This is the spirit of the antichrist. And despite all their religious motions, they were never really born-again.

It is surely a strange thing to think that there may be people in the middle of our fellowship (or any fellowship) who seem as if they know Jesus but yet never have really surrendered control of their lives to Him and never really believed that He is the Son of God and, personally, their “I Am.” But obviously that can be the case and we will only know for sure as things play out in their lives. Over time, either they will stick around and pursue Jesus or they won’t.

Third, there are those who will be very demonstrative in their involvement with the church and even display supernatural acts which will mesmerize many, but

they still do not belong to the family. Jesus said: "Many will say to Me on that day, "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS'" (*Matthew 7:22-23*).

So the mere act of someone being a part of a church and doing religious deeds, even supernatural deeds in the name of Christ, does not mean that person is a true believer and part of the house of God. I know this is bizarre and to me I have always swallowed hard on that passage. Quite frankly, it is not within my normal paradigm to imagine that people who do not truly have the Holy Spirit can do supernatural acts while calling on the name of Christ. But I guess that is just another argument we can throw in the mix for how big and massive and amazing Jesus is as His name alone is so powerful that it can do the unbelievable and the unfathomable.

So what this passage is trying to communicate is that if we truly belong to the household of God we will hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end; and, if we do not truly belong to the family then at some point in time we will wander away and it will be evident to all. So this passage is not about effort at all; rather it is about spiritual reality played out in our lives.

You see many have pretended to belong to God. Many have perfected the moves, the looks, the lingo, and have thrived in the environment of the "religion of Christianity." After all, the church is such an easy place to penetrate since true believers legitimately want others to come and be a part hoping that they will get saved. Thus, the enemy has not had too difficult of a time doing his destructive

work from the inside out. Add to it the fact that the fruit (or the sign of legitimacy) that most have looked for within the religion of “Christianity” has not been the outpouring of God’s agape love, but service, duty, diligence, discipline, obedience, and financial giving, has made it very difficult to tell the true believers from those who are not a part of the family.

But the point is that if you are a member of the household of God, if the Holy Spirit dwells within you, you don’t have to worry—you ***will*** make it to the end. Jesus will ensure that you do for your salvation is not dependent upon your doing it right and your ability to hold on to the end, for you simply are not that strong and not that faithful. Your salvation ***is*** dependent upon the Son who has been faithful over His house; the Son who is both the author and perfecter of your faith (***Hebrews 12:2***).

In John **10:27-29** Jesus said: "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand."

So again, we can relax. Our salvation is dependent upon Jesus and, as we learned from Chapter 1, He is far bigger than anyone of us and far bigger than any other created being or thing. All true believers are tucked away safe in His hands and the hands of the Father; and, since there is simply no one greater than either of them, we do not have to worry. The only ones who have to worry are those who are pretending and do not really belong.

Hebrews 3:7-19

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.' As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest.'"

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. As it is said, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."

For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

Now is a good time to set the stage and help you with the word pictures or the metaphors that will be used throughout Hebrews. To do that we have to go back around 1,500 years or so before this letter was written to the time when the children of Israel were slaves in Egypt. Now, just so you understand, a metaphor does not provide for us a perfect picture; rather, it is illustrative in order to make

a point. So don't try and nitpick these examples and thereby miss the point which the Spirit is trying to make.

With that said, Egypt tends to be a consistent Biblical metaphor for the world and Pharaoh is a metaphor for Satan who is the ruler of the world. The children of Israel who left Egypt are a metaphor for those who belong to God and are true believers. **Galatians 3:1-15** makes the point that the true sons of Abraham are those who believe by faith in Jesus Christ.

They were all under the cloud of the Spirit and all passed through the red sea and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. The cloud is a symbol of their being led by the Spirit of God the sea is a symbol of their having been baptized into their faith. The food that they ate, the manna, was a symbol of Christ. The water that they drank from the rock is a symbol of the Holy Spirit which flows from Christ, for the rock was Christ. Now we are told that these were all examples for us so that we would not follow into their same life of evil and unbelief (**1 Corinthians 10:1-7**).

We will find out in Chapter 4 that the Promised Land is a symbol for the life that Jesus wants all His children to experience; a life of peace and rest living in a land flowing with milk and honey free from enemies where His burden is light and His load is easy. It is a picture of those who by faith cross the Jordan River knowing that God goes before them to clear out from the land all the enemies until there is total peace and rest in the land.

This is a symbol of the believer who learns how to live by faith and live from the **New Creation**; the believer who is willing to go room by room in the corridor of their soul (or through each parcel in the Promised Land) and completely clear

out/wipe out all the enemies and every lofty thing raised up against the true knowledge of God and all which stands in the way of the believer fully trusting that Jesus is their I Am. They are the ones who have learned that if they walk in the Spirit they will not carry out the desires of the flesh and that they are actually able to practically live for the glory of God in all areas of their life.

Whereas, the Israelites who wandered the wilderness for 40-years and died are a symbol of believers who live their life strapped by religion and the evil desires of the flesh and never even get to venture into the Promised Land. They never learn what it means to live from the **New Creation**. They spend all their lives in the dryness of the desert. They spend their time trying to make their **Old Man** into a good Christian believing that is what the Holy Spirit wants them to do; they never really understand or believe that only God is good.

As a result, they just languish through life circling the same mountain over and over again until they die. And sadly, they never even are able to have victory over their flesh but they stay entrapped to the ways of their **Old Man**. Therefore, they try everything they can (more discipline, more reading, more praying, more service, more giving, more groups, more accountability, and more and more and more) but still all they end up with is a dry mouth full of sand and a life that is envied by no one.

So those are the metaphors that the Spirit is going to be using throughout the remainder of this book. In the very first teaching I encouraged you to be reading from Exodus through Judges so you can start to understand the meaning behind these metaphors and the reality of the impact our choices have on our life.

Hopefully you have been reading as it will be helpful for you to navigate the difficult passages in Hebrews.

Now, this passage starts with another “therefore.” Since Jesus is so gigantic and above all, since you are seated with Him in the heavenlies and one day you will also rule all that is seen and unseen, since He has been faithful to us as a Son who actually built the house in the first place; therefore, ***today***, if you hear His voice do not harden your hearts but listen to His voice.

It is clear that God gives you an option. You can listen to His voice and let His Word truly be authoritative over your life, and you can bet your life on it, or you can choose to let His word be suggestive, as with most people, and choose to live out your life depending upon your own wisdom and your own efforts to do it “right.” But mark His word; the consequences of this decision are massive and are very real.

He lets us know that He is not playing around. There are those with whom He is pleased and those with whom He is angry. Now remember, this has nothing to do with our eternal salvation but with our ability to live out our salvation in the here and now. And as a baseline we have to remember that there is only one way to please God and that is when we actively choose to bet our lives and believe the truth about whom He is and who we are, *for without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6)*; yes, it is impossible. Many believers simply do not live in a relationship with God where they are able to experience Him because they do not believe. They have hardened their hearts to His word.

Let’s think about this “day of testing.” Now just so you know that does not mean a literal 24 hour day, but it just refers to the period of time when they

wandered through the wilderness beginning with their crossing over the red sea. This would be the time between our first becoming Christians and our learning how to live by faith by the same grace through which we were saved. Sadly, many of those who are in the larger body of Christ never really learn what this is like. It is not that God had not spoken to them, it is just that the “religion” of Christianity tends to stomp out His voice in their lives and forces them to join the masses wondering through the desert trying hard to be good enough to find God; as such, they are unable to hear His voice as their hearts have become hardened.

We studied this phenomenon in the book of Ephesians. In ***Ephesians 4:17-19*** we are commanded to not live by the worthlessness of our minds, by the futility of our own wisdom, for if we do we will become hopelessly confused, darkened in our understanding of God, having our minds closed off from the life of God because we have hardened our hearts against Him. This is exactly what this passage is dealing with and the Spirit is using the story of the Israelites hardness of heart to help us understand the consequences of living in such a way that we are not full-on sold out to trusting ourselves to Jesus.

Just imagine all that they were privileged to experience. God crushed the control that Pharaoh, the mighty ruler of Egypt, had over the Israelites with signs, wonders, and miracles (just as it said in **2:4** that the Word spoken into our lives has been verified to us through signs and wonders and various miracles and by giving gifts of the Holy Spirit). He split the red sea and they crossed over on dry land whereas the Egyptians were buried in the same sea when they tried to cross. Of all the Egyptians who had chased the Israelites into the sea, not a single one survived.

They then traveled just 3-days and they began to complain against the Lord because they did not have water and the water that they had found was bitter. God did another miracle and made the water good and said to them: “If you will listen carefully to the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight obeying His commands and the laws, then I will not make you suffer the diseases I sent on the Egyptians for I am the Lord who heals you.”

They traveled for 30 more days and complained again for the lack of food saying that they would be better off back in Egypt. God then miraculously provided both manna and meat. And of course, they had a cloud in the midst of the people that guided them during the day and a pillar of fire that guided them during the night. Always there was a visible sign of the presence of the Lord and they even could see within the guiding cloud the awesome glory of the Lord.

Then they traveled some more and once again complained bitterly for there was a lack of water. They cried, “Why did you take us out of Egypt.” The people were so mad they were going to stone Moses. Then God told Moses to take His staff and he struck the rock near Mount Sinai and water came gushing out. This place was referred to as the place of testing—the place of arguing—because the people of Israel argued with Moses and tested the Lord by saying, “Is the Lord going to take care of us or not?”

Then while still at this place the Amalekites came and attacked them. Moses climbed a hill and as long as he held up his staff the Israelites could crush the Amalekites, which Joshua and his troops were successfully able to do. These slaves, by the power of God, suddenly became mighty warriors. Keep in mind, most of them probably had never even touched a weapon much less killed a man.

Then the Lord reveals Himself at Mount Sinai with powerful thunder, lighting, and a dense cloud over the mountain. There was fire and smoke and a violent earthquake. Moses spoke and God would thunder His reply for all to hear. This was exactly 2-months after they left Egypt. So if you are following me here, a lot has happened in just 60-days and the supernatural is invading the natural on a regular occurrence.

Moses then ascended the mountain and the Lord gave him all these teachings and regulations. He announced them to the people and they all said in unison: “we will do everything the Lord has told us to do.” Then Moses went back up the mountain and took along Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and 70 of Israel’s’ leaders. There they saw the God of Israel. Under His feet there seemed to be a pavement of brilliant sapphire, as clear as the heavens. And though Israel’s leaders saw this they did not die. In fact, they shared a meal together in God’s presence. Imagine, they had an encounter with a pre-incarnate manifestation of Jesus Christ.

Moses then ascended the mountain and the cloud of God covered it and the glorious presence of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai. After 6-days the Lord told Moses to climb higher and all the Israelites at the foot of the mountain saw an awesome sight. The awesome glory of the Lord on the mountaintop looked like a devouring fire. Then Moses disappeared into the cloud as he climbed higher up the mountain and he stayed there 40-days and 40-nights.

And despite all this amazing wonder and presence of the supernatural, the people freaked out when Moses did not come back down the mountain right away. So in total rebellion and unbelief they made a golden calf and started to worship it as god expecting this man-made idol to lead them. This was horrible.

Moses came back down and freaked out on them as this celebration was not only blasphemous but we are told that it totally amused the Israelites' enemies to the shame of the people. Moses ordered the Levites to strap on their swords and kill everyone who did not want to follow the Lord and God also sent a plague among the people to punish them.

Then they set up a place called the Tent of the Meeting and every time Moses went into the tent the pillar of cloud would come down and hover at the entrance of the tent and inside the tent the Lord would speak to Moses face to face as a man speaks to his friend.

So at this time about 2 years have passed since they left Egypt and there is probably close to 2.5 million or more people in the traveling community. I say that because we know that the total number of men (not including the Levites) who were 20 years or older was 603,550. And, once again, the complaining starts as they were tired of manna and craved meat from Egypt. God then miraculously provided quail to cover the land so that everyone could eat meat, but He also buried those who said they wanted to go back to Egypt. After this they left the Sinai and went to the border of the Promised Land just over 2-years after they were miraculously delivered from Egypt.

Moses then sent 12 spies into the land who confirmed that it was the most amazing place they had ever seen but they also freaked out saying that there were giants and enemies in the land who lived in fortified cities. Of the 12 spies there were only 2 who believed that since God did everything else He had promised and was so visibly and supernaturally present with them through their entire 2-year journey, that He would fulfill His word and go before them and crush

the enemies in the land and turn over this marvelous piece of real estate to the Israelites. There were just 2. The rest feared and hardened their hearts in unbelief and guess what? The 6.5 million agreed with the unbelieving 10.

These numbers have always been so powerful to me as it shows you that there is always such a super small remnant that really wants God and is willing to live by faith. Whereas, the rest of the community just wants God to do for them what they want when they want it. It did not matter how powerfully God had revealed Himself every single day of their lives (after all the cloud and the pillar of fire were a constant visible reminder of His presence). It did not matter how faithful God had been to do everything He ever promised. They wanted the land to have no enemies. They wanted the keys to the kingdom without having to do any of the work to clear out the land.

So God in His anger gave them what they wanted (remember, He does not force us to believe Him), and He sent them to wander the desert for the next 40-years until all those of age who refused to believe, in the face of some pretty amazing facts to the contrary, just died.

By the way, just in case you are curious, 2 out of approximately 6.5 million is equal to 0.0000307692307692308%. As you can see, the odds are pretty slim to be a person who is willing to take God at His Word and cross over into the Promised Land. Remember, these stories have all been given to us as an example of what not to do and what to do. We want to be the exception; we want to be one of the 2.

With that said, we will stop here tonight and we will pick up in this passage next week. I want you to be thinking about their story and start making

application of it to your life. Where in this menagerie of metaphors do you fall? Are you going to be one who lives like the Israelites who wandered in the lifeless desert until they die? Or will you be one who will cross over the Jordon? Will you be one who will refuse to live by the futility and worthlessness of your own wisdom and instead chooses to live by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

As for me and my household, we have chosen to cross over the Jordon and enter the Promised Land. And by His power and grace we will let His Word be not only our absolute priority but the ultimate authority over our lives. And by His power and might we will conquer all the enemies that live in the rooms within the corridors of our soul. I know that it is His desire for our lives as He wants us to rest from all our labors as He has rested from His.

I will be praying that you will make the same decision.

Let's pray