

The Pastor's Exhortation in Hebrews 3:7–4:11

Having shown Jesus as the faithful Son over God's house (3:1–6), the pastor now urges the congregation to respond to God's voice in faith and obedience, not unbelief and disobedience.

1. We're in a wilderness situation like the exodus generation. (3:7–19)

**What are the key points in the analogy between the two generations?*

*The "we" throughout the outline is the **visible church**—all those who externally participate in a congregation, even if some are not yet trusting Christ in their heart.

The pastors' explicit WARNING:

The pastor's explicit ENCOURAGEMENT:

2. We're hearing today good news involving the promise of entering God's rest. (4:1–11)

**What is the good news the exodus generation heard? What is the good news that came to us?*

**What is this divine rest of which God speaks?*

The pastor's explicit WARNING:

The pastor's explicit ENCOURAGEMENT:

3. We'll be exposed and discerned by the word of God, to whom we must give account. (4:12–13)

**What is the nature of this word of God (that is, his personal utterance/command)?*

The pastor's implicit WARNING:

The pastor's implicit ENCOURAGEMENT:

Exodus Generation's Rebellion Against God's Word

Psalm 95

"Of David" (*superscript in Greek version*)

- ¹ Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- ² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
- ³ For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
- ⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
- ⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.
- ⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
- ⁷ For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.
- Today, if you hear his voice,**
⁸ **do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah** [*lit: Quarreling/Striving Against*],
as on the day at Massah [*lit: Testing*] **in the wilderness,**
⁹ **when your fathers put me to the test**
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.
- ¹⁰ **For forty years I loathed that generation**
and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart,
and they have not known my ways."
- ¹¹ **Therefore I swore in my wrath,**
"They shall not enter my rest."

Massah
&
Meribah

Exodus 17:7 And [Moses] called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, **"Is the LORD among us or not?"**

Kadesh

Deut 1:26-32 **"Yet you would not go up, but rebelled against the command of the LORD your God."** ²⁷ And you murmured in your tents and said, **'Because the LORD hated us** he has brought us out of the land of Egypt, to give us into the hand of the Amorites, **to destroy us.** ²⁸ Where are we going up? Our brothers have made our hearts melt, saying, "The people are greater and taller than we. The cities are great and fortified up to heaven. And besides, we have seen the sons of the Anakim there."²⁹ Then I said to you, 'Do not be in dread or afraid of them. ³⁰ The LORD your God who goes before you will himself fight for you, just as he did for you in Egypt before your eyes, ³¹ and in the wilderness, where you have seen how the LORD your God carried you, as a man carries his son, all the way that you went until you came to this place.'³² **Yet in spite of this word you did not believe the LORD your God,** ³³ **who went before you in the way to seek you out a place to pitch your tents, in fire by night and in the cloud by day, to show you by what way you should go.** *See also Numbers 14