



“The Hardened Heart”

Sun June 25, 2023

I. **Hebrews 3:7-13**

A. **Harden**

1. **To Render Stubborn; destitute of spiritual perception, callous, blind.**
2. Stubborn is the same word in the Bible as Rebellion: **To turn away, revolter, disobedient, provoke.**
 - Two people in the O.T. comes to mind: Pharaoh and King Saul...
 - **1 Samuel 15:23**

B. The Callous and Numb Generation

1. **Matthew 24:10-12**
 - Tired of the lies, the corruption, the world in general?
 - Fed up with people?
2. This is Satan’s tactic so you become despondent and lose the sight of the power that is within; don’t give up...keep your eyes focused and your heart alert...you will surely make it to the end!

II. Things that will help keep you from a hardened heart

A. **Guard Your Heart With All Diligence (Proverbs 4:23)**

1. Remember...“*Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks...*”
2. Protecting what goes in your garden ensures the crop that comes out!

B. **Keep the faith by developing it**

1. **Revelation 3:10-11** (Keep it and Hold fast to it).
2. **John 12:37-40** (Believing is the key to receiving) / **Mark 16:14**
3. You develop your faith just like you develop your muscles – exercise them....and if you don’t, they will grow less significant and weak. (Believe for greater things in God....exercise your faith daily).

C. **Keep Your Heart Open**

1. Have an open heart to give...
 - When you bless someone, do it with an open heart, not expecting a return (this way you want get offended if the person you blessed doesn’t do what they are supposed to do with the gift – too many times, we expect something from people and our disappointment can affect what we do in the future).
2. Have an open heart to receive...
 - Receiving is just as important as giving – if you have a callous heart, you will become prideful and believe that you don’t need anything from anyone.