

## Fix Your Thoughts on The Lord

Some time ago (circa 2003ish), a preacher friend of mine, knowing my circumstances at the time, asked me how I was always so able to stay focused on my work. I replied by pointing to a fixed point in the corner of the ceiling, extending my hand toward it, and telling him how I had learned to stay focused on the Lord, regardless of whatever was going on all around me. And as I pointed, I moved my hands all-around as if to illustrate the "static" of the worldly things that are always vying for our attention and trying to take-away our focus.

The Preacher was amazed, and he commended me on the ability to stay focused through some mighty trying circumstances. I think, though, that anybody can do this. It just takes practice and a strong desire to carry-out the Lord's will and purposes above ALL else.

Here's how the book of Hebrews puts it:

### Hebrews 3 (NIV)

#### Jesus Greater Than Moses

Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest. <sup>2</sup>He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. <sup>3</sup>Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. <sup>4</sup>For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. <sup>5</sup>"Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house," bearing witness to what would be spoken by God in the future. <sup>6</sup>But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory.

#### Warning Against Unbelief

<sup>7</sup> So, as the Holy Spirit says:

"Today, if you hear his voice,

<sup>8</sup> do not harden your hearts

as you did in the rebellion,

during the time of testing in the wilderness,

<sup>9</sup> where your ancestors tested and tried me,

though for forty years they saw what I did.

<sup>10</sup> That is why I was angry with that generation;

I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray,

and they have not known my ways.'

<sup>11</sup> So I declared on oath in my anger,

'They shall never enter my rest.' "

<sup>12</sup> See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. <sup>13</sup> But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. <sup>14</sup> We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end. <sup>15</sup> As has just been said:

"Today, if you hear his voice,

do not harden your hearts

as you did in the rebellion."

<sup>16</sup>Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt?  
<sup>17</sup>And with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies  
perished in the wilderness? <sup>18</sup>And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if  
not to those who disobeyed? <sup>19</sup>So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their  
unbelief.

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When you do this, all the things that seemed so troubling have a tendency to work themselves  
out. The more you give them over to the Lord, and the more you stay focused on what it is that  
He's given you to do, the sooner the static subsides. And you end-up almost not even being  
able to recall what those things were that were trying to distract you in the first place.

Give it a try.

I hope you have an amazing day!!

- Jack