Hold Fast Your Confession Hebrews Pt 04

Heb 3:1 Therefore, **holy brothers**, you who share in a **heavenly calling**, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession,

- Two things about us → holy brothers (not ashamed) heavenly calling (bringing many sons to glory)
- Two things about Jesus → apostle and high priest of our confession (living the "in between")
- Of Our Confession = to say the same thing...agree who he is and public allegiance to Him

<u>APOSTLE of our confession sent to bring good news → believe, confess → become Holy Brothers</u>

- Rom 10:9-10 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (10) For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.
- 1Jn 4:15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

High Priest of our confession → linked to HEAVENLY CALLING - hold fast take hold of eternal life

- Heb 4:14 Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, **let us hold fast our confession**.
- 1Ti 6:12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
- Our CONFESSION holds us IN BETWEEN, HOLY BROTHER awaiting HEAVENLY CALLING

Jesus FAITHFUL over his house We are HIS HOUSE IF we hold CONFIDENCE and BOASTING in HOPE

• (5) Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, (6) but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope. (salvation holy brother, heavenly calling)

<u>How do we hold our confidence and boasting in hope</u> during the "in-between" season?

Personal responsibility → Keep Responsive Heart vs hard heart - heart gone astray - unbelieving heart

• (7) Therefore, as the <u>Holy Spirit says</u>, "Today, if you hear his voice, (8) do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness,......'They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.'......Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.

Corporate responsibility \rightarrow exhort ONE ANOTHER - EVERY DAY -- we share if we continue

- (13) 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. (14) For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.
 - Heb 10:23-24 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who
 promised is faithful. (24) And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good
 works,

It was the people of God who missed out on the REST - HE IS WARNING BELIEVERS

• (15) As it is said, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." (16) For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? (17) And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? (18) And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? (19) So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

Message of chapter 3

Jesus came to us as apostle. We believed Him and openly confessed that He is Lord...Right now, we stand in the middle - already His brother and sister, but not yet in the glory He promised. We bring nothing of our own: no merit, no achievement. **The ONE THING we do have is our confession**. Our continued confession keeps us faithful to Him as we move from where we are now to the future He has prepared. **Don't cast away your confidence**, **hold fast to your confession......** Matt 10:32 Whosoever therefore shall **confess** me before men, him will I **confess** also before my Father which is in heaven.