

THE BOOK OF  
**HEBREWS**

JESUS IS GREATER 

*Holding Firmly to the End*

*Hebrews 3:12-14*

**Hebrews 3:12-14 (NIV)** <sup>12</sup> See to it, brothers, 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 we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.



# I. THE DECEPTIVE NATURE OF SIN.

## A. Sin has always been deceitful.

By first questioning the word of God.

He then makes sin seem good.

He appealed to the lust of her flesh.

He additionally appealed to her pride.

Hebrews 3:12-14

# I. THE DECEPTIVE NATURE OF SIN.

## B. Sin is deceitful in its approach.

Recognition in the world's eyes.

Happiness in this present world.

Escape from reality.

Satisfaction of fleshly desires.

**James 1:14 (NIV)** <sup>14</sup> but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.



# I. THE DECEPTIVE NATURE OF SIN.

## C. Sin is deceitful in its objective.

### 1. It never reveals the actual results.

**James 1:15-16 (NIV)** <sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. <sup>16</sup> Don't be deceived, my dear brothers.

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Hebrews 3:12-14

# I. THE DECEPTIVE NATURE OF SIN.

## D. Sin is deceitful in the name it wears.

Covetousness- Prudent Thrifty

Lasciviousness- Harmless Mirth

Anger- Good Zeal

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Hebrews 3:12-14



# I. THE DECEPTIVE NATURE OF SIN.

## E. Sin offers deceitful arguments.

**Proverbs 14:12 (NIV)** <sup>12</sup> There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

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Hebrews 3:12-14

# I. THE DECEPTIVE NATURE OF SIN.

## F. Sin offers deceitful excuses.

**Genesis 3:12 (NIV)** <sup>12</sup> The man said, "The woman you put here with me--she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

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## II. THE HARDENING NATURE OF SIN.

**Hebrews 3:13 (NIV)** <sup>13</sup> ...so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

**A. You gradually become desensitized to sin.**

- 1) Selfishness.
- 2) Harsh words.
- 3) Bitterness.
- 4) Hatred.
- 5) Seared conscience.

## II. THE HARDENING NATURE OF SIN.

**Hebrews 3:13 (NIV)** <sup>13</sup> ...so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

### A. You gradually become desensitized to sin.

A love for God, not just for what he has done for us, but for whom he is.

A sensitivity to sin.

Genuine humility.

Vigorous social conscience.

The practice of charity or Christian love.



### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### A. Remember the Past

**Hebrews 3:16-18 (NIV)** <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 fell in the desert? <sup>18</sup> And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed?

Hebrews 3:12-14

### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### A. Remember the Past

Hebrews 2:1 (NIV) <sup>1</sup> We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.

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Hebrews 3:12-14



### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### A. Remember the Past

**Proverbs 4:23-27 (NIV)** <sup>23</sup> Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

<sup>24</sup> Put away perversity from your mouth; keep corrupt talk far from your lips.

<sup>25</sup> Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you.

<sup>26</sup> Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm.

<sup>27</sup> Do not swerve to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.

### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### B. Receive Encouragement Daily for the Present

**Hebrews 3:13 (NIV)** <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. The hardened heart does not want to hear rebuke.

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Hebrews 3:12-14



### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### B. Receive Encouragement Daily for the Present

As much as possible hang around God's family and listen to wise counsel.

**1 Corinthians 15:33-34 (NIV)** <sup>33</sup> Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

<sup>34</sup> Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God-- I say this to your shame.

### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### B. Receive Encouragement Daily for the Present

Establish good habits where you receive daily and weekly encouragement from God's Word.

**Proverbs 2:1-11 (NIV)** <sup>1</sup> My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you,  
<sup>2</sup> turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding,  
<sup>3</sup> and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,



### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### B. Receive Encouragement Daily for the Present

Establish good habits where you receive daily and weekly encouragement from God's Word.

<sup>4</sup> and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,

<sup>5</sup> then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

<sup>6</sup> For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### B. Receive Encouragement Daily for the Present

Establish good habits where you receive daily and weekly encouragement from God's Word.

<sup>7</sup> He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless,

<sup>8</sup> for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.

<sup>9</sup> Then you will understand what is right and just and fair--every good path.



### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### B. Receive Encouragement Daily for the Present

Establish good habits where you receive daily and weekly encouragement from God's Word.

<sup>10</sup> For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.

<sup>11</sup> Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you.

Hebrews 3:12-14

### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### B. Receive Encouragement Daily for the Present

Be an encourager to others.

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### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### C. Run into the future with eyes fixed on Jesus

**Hebrews 3:14 (NIV)** <sup>14</sup> We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.

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Hebrews 3:12-14

### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### C. Run into the future with eyes fixed on Jesus

**Hebrews 3:1 (NIV)** <sup>1</sup> Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess.

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### III. THE SOFTENING NATURE OF CHRIST.

#### C. Run into the future with eyes fixed on Jesus

**Hebrews 12:2 (NIV)** <sup>2</sup> Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

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