

Date: 6 October

Preacher: Ps Paul

Sermon Title: God Empowers those with a Soft Heart

Bible Reading: Hebrews 3: 1-15

Outline

- Our calling is significant, but very simple – We fix our eyes on Jesus (v1)
- As a result, God will empower us to build His house (v3-4)
- That's why our heart must remain soft, otherwise we'll live our life in the desert (v7-11)
- So we must be fully aware, the deceitfulness of sin hardens our heart (v12-13)
- Instead, we focus on Christ, that's how we overcome this rebellion (v14-15)

Small Group Questions/Discussions

Verse 3 starts with the word **Therefore**, so read the verses prior Ch 2: 14-18. Why is it so important to focus on Jesus? How does this simplify our calling to live out God's purposes here on earth? To fix our eyes on Jesus enables us to have a soft heart. How does Jesus soften our heart and why is this so important?

Read v3-6. Who is the house that Jesus is building? As God builds in us and thru us – achieving his purposes – where does the power come from? Why is a soft heart needed to stay in step with God's spirit?

History tells us that hard hearts lead to rebellion. What did it cost the people of Israel? What will happen to us on our pilgrimage - What does "desert living" look like for us today?

The writer talks about the deceitfulness of sin (v13) – It distracts so easily. What can we do to "keep" our eyes on Jesus? Does "fixing our eyes on Jesus" almost seem too simple and old school – are we in danger of making things far too complicated?

God is still building His house today. What is God working on in your life? Why is a soft heart so important? What are you investing in to make sure your heart stays soft?