

"holy brothers"

-Only found here in the NT

-In what sense can man be considered "holy?"

-Rom 8:1-4

Moses / Jesus Similarities

Both were Faithful (2, 5-6)

Both were Israelites (De 18:15)

Both were sent to the Children of Israel

Both forsook their high status to perform a mission of rescue (Ph 2:6)

Both were rejected (Ex 2:14; Acts 7)

Both offered themselves for Israel (Ex 32:32; Jn 10:17)

Christ

- Χριστός (Christos)
- Lit "anointed one"
- Greek translation of the Hebrew word for "Messiah"

Progression of Titles:

- Son (1:2)
- Jesus (2:9)
- Christ (3:6)

"in the rebellion" "put me to the test"

Ex 17:1-7; Nu 14; 20:2-13

"swore"

Num 14:20-38

"not enter my rest"

Deut 12:9-10; 25:19

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

High Priest

God the Father

-Emphasizes the sacrificial nature of His mission (2:17)

²who was **faithful** to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was **faithful** in all God's house. <- Num 12:7

House = People of God

³For Jesus has been counted worthy of **more glory** than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but the **builder of all things is God**.)

Builder is GREATER than the house itself

⁵Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later,

A Son is GREATER than a Servant

⁶but **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.

Hold Fast

- 2:1-4; 3:14; 10:2

Confidence, Boasting, Hope

- 4:16; 6:19; 10:19-23

- 1Co 1:27-31; Rom 5:1-11

⁷Therefore, as the **Holy Spirit** says, <- 9:8; 10:15
"Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.'" ¹¹As I swore in my wrath, **"They shall not enter my rest."** <- Ps 95:7-11

Divine judgment against evil, not an emotional response

¹²**Take care**, brothers, lest there be in any of you **an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God**. ¹³But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called **"today,"** that none of you may be **hardened by the deceitfulness of sin**. *Today = Now! While there is still opportunity.*

Apostle

ἀπόστολος apostolos

-Only applied to Jesus in Hebrews

-Lit "One sent on a mission"

-Jesus was sent by the Father to accomplish His eternal purpose

-Jn 12:44-50

Moses / Jesus Contrasts

Moses labored in a house he did not build

Jesus labored in the house he built (2-3)

Moses was faithful as a servant

Jesus was faithful as a son (5-6)

Moses' mission only pertained to Israel

Jesus' mission, ultimately, to the whole world (Mk 16:15)

Moses delivered from physical bondage

Jesus delivers from the spiritual of sin. (2:14-15)

Moses was sinful (De 32:51-52)

Jesus was sinless (4:15)

Comparison between Moses and Jesus moves to their followers.

-The writer echoes the Psalmist's warning to not harden their hearts like the children of Israel did, and run the risk of missing God's rest. (2:1-4; 4:1)

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¹⁴For we have come to **share in Christ**, if indeed we hold our original **confidence** firm to the end. <- Rom 12:5; 2 Cor 5:17

The author begins to systematically breakdown Ps 95:7-11

¹⁵As it is said, “*Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.*” <- Ps 95:7-8

3 Questions that emphasize it was the children of Israel who were in a position of spiritual privilege and yet rebelled against God.

¹⁶**For who were those who heard and yet rebelled?** Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? <- Ex 17:1-7; Nu 14; 20:2-13

¹⁷And **with whom was he provoked for forty years?** Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? <- Nu 14:29-33

¹⁸And **to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest**, but to those who were disobedient? <- Nu 14:20-38

¹⁹So we see that they were **unable to enter** because of **unbelief**.

This is the inevitable outcome of sin and unbelief

Hebrews Chapter 3 - Questions for Discussion

In what sense can mortal man be considered holy? (v. 1; Romans 8:1-4)

In what sense was Jesus an “Apostle?” Does this detract from His Deity?
(vv. 1; John 12:49; Phil 2:6)

- What does the term “Apostle” mean?

Apostle - _____ - _____

What does it mean that Jesus is the “high priest of our confession?” (v. 1)

From 3:1-6, and elsewhere, what are the similarities and contrasts between Jesus and Moses:

Similarities:

- Both were _____ (v. 2, 5-6)
- Both were _____ (v. Deut 18:15)
- Both were sent to the _____ of _____
- Both forsook their _____ _____ to perform a _____ of _____ (v. Phil 2:6)
- Both were _____ (vv. Exodus 2:14; Acts 7)
- Both _____ themselves to _____ for Israel (vv. Exodus 32:32; John 10:17)

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Contrasts:

- Moses was faithful as a _____
Jesus was faithful as a _____ (v. 5)
- Moses labored in a _____ he did not _____
Jesus labored in the _____ he _____, his own _____ (v. 2-3)
- Moses' mission only pertained to _____
Jesus' mission, ultimately, to the _____ _____ (v. Mark 16:15)
- Moses delivered from _____
Jesus delivers from the _____ _____ of _____
(v. 2:14-15)
- Moses was _____ (v. Deut 32:51-52)
Jesus was _____ (v. 4:15)

What is the "house" referred to in verses 1-6? What does the existence of a "house" indicate? (v. 4)

What is the author's purpose in quoting from Psalm 95:7-11? What warning is he giving to these Christians? What are the parallels between the followers of Moses and the followers of Christ? (vv. 7-19; Psalm 95:7-11)

- What things prevented the children of Israel from entering the promised land (rest)? (vv. 7-11; 15-19)
- What things would prevent a Christian from entering the promised place of rest? (vv. 12-14)

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Teacher's Notes

HOLY BROTHERS

Romans 8:1–4 (ESV)

¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

APOSTLE

ἀπόστολος apostolos; from 649; a messenger, one sent on a mission, an apostle:— apostle(19), apostles(52), apostles'(5), messenger(1), messengers(1), is sent(1).¹

John 12:44–50 (ESV)

⁴⁴ And Jesus cried out and said, “Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. ⁴⁵ And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. ⁴⁶ I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. ⁴⁷ If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. ⁴⁸ The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. ⁴⁹ For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. ⁵⁰ And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”

HIGH PRIEST

Hebrews 2:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

¹ Thomas, R. L. (1998). [New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : updated edition](#). Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

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MOSES & JESUS SIMILARITIES

Deuteronomy 18:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—

Philippians 2:6 (ESV)

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,

Exodus 2:14 (ESV)

¹⁴ He answered, “Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?” Then Moses was afraid, and thought, “Surely the thing is known.”

Acts 7 (ESV)

¹ And the high priest said, “Are these things so?” ² And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, ³ and said to him, ‘Go out from your land and from your kindred and go into the land that I will show you.’ ⁴ Then he went out from the land of the Chaldeans and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living. ⁵ Yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot’s length, but promised to give it to him as a possession and to his offspring after him, though he had no child. ⁶ And God spoke to this effect—that his offspring would be sojourners in a land belonging to others, who would enslave them and afflict them four hundred years. ⁷ ‘But I will judge the nation that they serve,’ said God, ‘and after that they shall come out and worship me in this place.’ ⁸ And he gave him the covenant of circumcision. And so Abraham became the father of Isaac, and circumcised him on the eighth day, and Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob of the twelve patriarchs.

⁹ “And the patriarchs, jealous of Joseph, sold him into Egypt; but God was with him ¹⁰ and rescued him out of all his afflictions and gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt, who made him ruler over Egypt and over all his household. ¹¹ Now there came a famine throughout all Egypt and Canaan, and great affliction, and our fathers could find no food. ¹² But when Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent out our fathers on their first visit. ¹³ And on the second visit Joseph made himself known to his brothers, and Joseph’s family became known to Pharaoh. ¹⁴ And Joseph sent and summoned Jacob his father and all his kindred, seventy-five persons in all. ¹⁵ And Jacob went down into Egypt, and he died, he and our fathers, ¹⁶ and they were carried back to Shechem and laid in the tomb that Abraham had bought for a sum of silver from the sons of Hamor in Shechem.

¹⁷ “But as the time of the promise drew near, which God had granted to Abraham, the people increased and multiplied in Egypt ¹⁸ until there arose over Egypt another king

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who did not know Joseph.¹⁹ He dealt shrewdly with our race and forced our fathers to expose their infants, so that they would not be kept alive.²⁰ At this time Moses was born; and he was beautiful in God's sight. And he was brought up for three months in his father's house,²¹ and when he was exposed, Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and brought him up as her own son.²² And Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was mighty in his words and deeds.

²³ "When he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brothers, the children of Israel.²⁴ And seeing one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed man and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian.²⁵ He supposed that his brothers would understand that God was giving them salvation by his hand, but they did not understand.²⁶ And on the following day he appeared to them as they were quarreling and tried to reconcile them, saying, 'Men, you are brothers. Why do you wrong each other?'²⁷ But the man who was wronging his neighbor thrust him aside, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?'²⁸ Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?'²⁹ At this retort Moses fled and became an exile in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.

³⁰ "Now when forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush.³¹ When Moses saw it, he was amazed at the sight, and as he drew near to look, there came the voice of the Lord:³² 'I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob.' And Moses trembled and did not dare to look.³³ Then the Lord said to him, 'Take off the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.'³⁴ I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and have heard their groaning, and I have come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send you to Egypt.'

³⁵ "This Moses, whom they rejected, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge?'—this man God sent as both ruler and redeemer by the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush.³⁶ This man led them out, performing wonders and signs in Egypt and at the Red Sea and in the wilderness for forty years.³⁷ This is the Moses who said to the Israelites, 'God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers.'³⁸ This is the one who was in the congregation in the wilderness with the angel who spoke to him at Mount Sinai, and with our fathers. He received living oracles to give to us.³⁹ Our fathers refused to obey him, but thrust him aside, and in their hearts they turned to Egypt,⁴⁰ saying to Aaron, 'Make for us gods who will go before us. As for this Moses who led us out from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.'⁴¹ And they made a calf in those days, and offered a sacrifice to the idol and were rejoicing in the works of their hands.⁴² But God turned away and gave them over to worship the host of heaven, as it is written in the book of the prophets:

" 'Did you bring to me slain beasts and sacrifices,
during the forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel?

⁴³ You took up the tent of Moloch
and the star of your god Rephan,
the images that you made to worship;

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and I will send you into exile beyond Babylon.’

⁴⁴ “Our fathers had the tent of witness in the wilderness, just as he who spoke to Moses directed him to make it, according to the pattern that he had seen. ⁴⁵ Our fathers in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our fathers. So it was until the days of David, ⁴⁶ who found favor in the sight of God and asked to find a dwelling place for the God of Jacob. ⁴⁷ But it was Solomon who built a house for him. ⁴⁸ Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made by hands, as the prophet says,

⁴⁹ “ ‘Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool.
What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord,
or what is the place of my rest?

⁵⁰ Did not my hand make all these things?’

⁵¹ “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵² Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³ you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

⁵⁴ Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” ⁵⁷ But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸ Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

JESUS & MOSES CONTRASTS

Mark 16:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.”

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Hebrews 2:14–15 (ESV)

¹⁴ Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

Deuteronomy 32:51–52 (ESV)

⁵¹ because you broke faith with me in the midst of the people of Israel at the waters of Meribah-kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin, and because you did not treat me as holy in the midst of the people of Israel. ⁵² For you shall see the land before you, but you shall not go there, into the land that I am giving to the people of Israel.”

Hebrews 4:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

FAITHFUL IN ALL GOD’S HOUSE

Numbers 12:7 (ESV)

⁷ Not so with my servant Moses. He is faithful in all my house.

CHRIST

Χριστός Christos; from 5548; *the Anointed One, Messiah, Christ*:—Christ(516), Christ’s(11), Messiah(4).²

5986 Χριστός (*Christos*), οὔ (*ou*), ὁ (*ho*): n.pr.masc. [see also 3549]; ≡ DBLHebr 5431; Str 5547; TDNT 9.493—1. LN 53.82 **Messiah** a title for the Anointed One, *i.e.*, God’s special choice (Mt 2:4; Jn 1:41; 4:25); 2. LN 93.387 **Christ** a proper name for Jesus of Nazareth (Mt 27:17)³

CHRIST—anointed, the Greek translation of the Hebrew word rendered “Messiah” (q.v.), the official title of our Lord, occurring five hundred and fourteen times in the New Testament. It denotes that he was anointed or consecrated to his great redemptive work as Prophet, Priest, and King of his people. He is Jesus the Christ (Acts 17:3; 18:5; Matt. 22:42), the Anointed One. He is thus spoken of by Isaiah (61:1), and by Daniel (9:24–26), who styles him “Messiah the Prince.”

² Thomas, R. L. (1998). [New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : updated edition](#). Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

³ Swanson, J. (1997). [Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek \(New Testament\)](#) (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

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The Messiah is the same person as “the seed of the woman” (Gen. 3:15), “the seed of Abraham” (Gen. 22:18), the “Prophet like unto Moses” (Deut. 18:15), “the priest after the order of Melchizedek” (Ps. 110:4), “the rod out of the stem of Jesse” (Isa. 11:1, 10), the “Immanuel,” the virgin’s son (Isa. 7:14), “the branch of Jehovah” (Isa. 4:2), and “the messenger of the covenant” (Mal. 3:1). This is he “of whom Moses in the law and the prophets did write.” The Old Testament Scripture is full of prophetic declarations regarding the Great Deliverer and the work he was to accomplish. Jesus the Christ is Jesus the Great Deliverer, the Anointed One, the Saviour of men. This name denotes that Jesus was divinely appointed, commissioned, and accredited as the Saviour of men (Heb. 5:4; Isa. 11:2–4; 49:6; John 5:37; Acts 2:22).

To believe that “Jesus is the Christ” is to believe that he is the Anointed, the Messiah of the prophets, the Saviour sent of God, that he was, in a word, what he claimed to be. This is to believe the gospel, by the faith of which alone men can be brought unto God. That Jesus is the Christ is the testimony of God, and the faith of this constitutes a Christian (1 Cor. 12:3; 1 John 5:1).⁴

Hebrews 1:2 (ESV)

² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

Hebrews 2:9 (ESV)

⁹ But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

HOLD FAST

Hebrews 2:1–4 (ESV)

¹ Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. ² For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, ⁴ while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

Hebrews 10:2 (ESV)

² Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins?

⁴ Easton, M. G. (1893). In [Easton's Bible dictionary](#). New York: Harper & Brothers.

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CONFIDENCE, BOASTING, HOPE

Hebrews 4:16 (ESV)

¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 6:19 (ESV)

¹⁹ We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain,

Hebrews 10:19–23 (ESV)

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

1 Corinthians 1:27–31 (ESV)

²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Romans 5:1–11 (ESV)

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

PSALM 95

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Psalm 95:7–11 (ESV)

⁷ For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.
Today, if you hear his voice,
⁸ do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,
⁹ when your fathers put me to the test
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.
¹⁰ For forty years I loathed that generation
and said, “They are a people who go astray in their heart,
and they have not known my ways.”
¹¹ Therefore I swore in my wrath,
“They shall not enter my rest.”

HOLY SPIRIT

Hebrews 9:8 (ESV)

⁸ By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the holy places is not yet opened as long as the first section is still standing

Hebrews 10:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

“IN THE REBELLION”

“PUT ME TO THE TEST”

“SWORE”

Exodus 17:1–7 (ESV)

¹ All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” ⁴ So Moses cried to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷

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And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

Numbers 14 (ESV)

¹ Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night. ² And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, “Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! ³ Why is the LORD bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?” ⁴ And they said to one another, “Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt.”

⁵ Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the people of Israel. ⁶ And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes ⁷ and said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, “The land, which we passed through to spy it out, is an exceedingly good land. ⁸ If the LORD delights in us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey. ⁹ Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection is removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them.” ¹⁰ Then all the congregation said to stone them with stones. But the glory of the LORD appeared at the tent of meeting to all the people of Israel.

¹¹ And the LORD said to Moses, “How long will this people despise me? And how long will they not believe in me, in spite of all the signs that I have done among them? ¹² I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they.”

¹³ But Moses said to the LORD, “Then the Egyptians will hear of it, for you brought up this people in your might from among them, ¹⁴ and they will tell the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that you, O LORD, are in the midst of this people. For you, O LORD, are seen face to face, and your cloud stands over them and you go before them, in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night. ¹⁵ Now if you kill this people as one man, then the nations who have heard your fame will say, ¹⁶ ‘It is because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land that he swore to give to them that he has killed them in the wilderness.’ ¹⁷ And now, please let the power of the Lord be great as you have promised, saying, ¹⁸ ‘The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, forgiving iniquity and transgression, but he will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, to the third and the fourth generation.’ ¹⁹ Please pardon the iniquity of this people, according to the greatness of your steadfast love, just as you have forgiven this people, from Egypt until now.”

²⁰ Then the LORD said, “I have pardoned, according to your word. ²¹ But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD, ²² none of the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice, ²³ shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it. ²⁴

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But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it.²⁵ Now, since the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwell in the valleys, turn tomorrow and set out for the wilderness by the way to the Red Sea.”

²⁶ And the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,²⁷ “How long shall this wicked congregation grumble against me? I have heard the grumbings of the people of Israel, which they grumble against me.²⁸ Say to them, ‘As I live, declares the LORD, what you have said in my hearing I will do to you:²⁹ your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness, and of all your number, listed in the census from twenty years old and upward, who have grumbled against me,³⁰ not one shall come into the land where I swore that I would make you dwell, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.³¹ But your little ones, who you said would become a prey, I will bring in, and they shall know the land that you have rejected.³² But as for you, your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness.³³ And your children shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years and shall suffer for your faithlessness, until the last of your dead bodies lies in the wilderness.³⁴ According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, a year for each day, you shall bear your iniquity forty years, and you shall know my displeasure.’³⁵ I, the LORD, have spoken. Surely this will I do to all this wicked congregation who are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall come to a full end, and there they shall die.”

³⁶ And the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation grumble against him by bringing up a bad report about the land—³⁷ the men who brought up a bad report of the land—died by plague before the LORD.³⁸ Of those men who went to spy out the land, only Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive.

³⁹ When Moses told these words to all the people of Israel, the people mourned greatly.⁴⁰ And they rose early in the morning and went up to the heights of the hill country, saying, “Here we are. We will go up to the place that the LORD has promised, for we have sinned.”⁴¹ But Moses said, “Why now are you transgressing the command of the LORD, when that will not succeed?⁴² Do not go up, for the LORD is not among you, lest you be struck down before your enemies.⁴³ For there the Amalekites and the Canaanites are facing you, and you shall fall by the sword. Because you have turned back from following the LORD, the LORD will not be with you.”⁴⁴ But they presumed to go up to the heights of the hill country, although neither the ark of the covenant of the LORD nor Moses departed out of the camp.⁴⁵ Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down and defeated them and pursued them, even to Hormah.

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Numbers 20:2–13 (ESV)

² Now there was no water for the congregation. And they assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron. ³ And the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Would that we had perished when our brothers perished before the LORD! ⁴ Why have you brought the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness, that we should die here, both we and our cattle? ⁵ And why have you made us come up out of Egypt to bring us to this evil place? It is no place for grain or figs or vines or pomegranates, and there is no water to drink.” ⁶ Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. And the glory of the LORD appeared to them, ⁷ and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ⁸ “Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle.” ⁹ And Moses took the staff from before the LORD, as he commanded him.

¹⁰ Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, “Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?” ¹¹ And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock. ¹² And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not believe in me, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them.” ¹³ These are the waters of Meribah, where the people of Israel quarreled with the LORD, and through them he showed himself holy.

“NOT ENTER MY REST”

Deuteronomy 12:9–10 (ESV)

⁹ for you have not as yet come to the rest and to the inheritance that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹⁰ But when you go over the Jordan and live in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to inherit, and when he gives you rest from all your enemies around, so that you live in safety,

Deuteronomy 25:19 (ESV)

¹⁹ Therefore when the LORD your God has given you rest from all your enemies around you, in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance to possess, you shall blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven; you shall not forget.

COMPARISON BETWEEN MOSES AND JESUS MOVES TO THEIR FOLLOWERS.

Hebrews 2:1–4 (ESV)

¹ Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. ² For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was

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attested to us by those who heard, ⁴ while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

Hebrews 4:1 (ESV)

¹ Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it.

SHARE IN CHRIST

Romans 12:5 (ESV)

⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.