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Hard-Hearted Unbelieving Believers

Teaching Notes by Joyce Meyer

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HARD-HEARTED UNBELIEVING BELIEVERS

- I. **Don't Make God Wrestle With You Any Longer.**
 - A. Moses brought them out of bondage (slavery).
 - B. Joshua takes them into the Promised Land.
 - C. Wandering in the wilderness for forty years equals wandering in the "Carnal Soul Life" after Jesus delivers us from Egypt.
 1. Included a lot of unbelief
 2. **Exodus 3:10-14, 18; 4:10-14** – Moses brought them out of Egypt, but Egypt was not out of them.
 - D. **Hebrews 3:8, 12, 15, 18-19; Luke 24:25** and **Ezekiel 11:19**
 1. Unbelief

Cannot enter rest and be in unbelief.
 - E. Moses and unbelief
 1. **Numbers 20:7-12**
 2. He was weary – had "burnout."
 3. Refer to Joyce Meyer's teaching albums:
 - a. *The Lost Art Of Enjoying Life*
 - b. *Confidence*

c. *The Root Of Rejection*

II. **The Heart Of Joshua**

- A. **Deuteronomy 31:1-8, 23** - Be strong, courageous, and fear not.
- B. **Joshua 1:5, 7, 9, 18**
- C. **Bold** (defined/Vine's) – **Cheer**, confident, courageous, speak boldly or freely; **to dare to do**. Denotes boldness in undertaking and has reference to manifestation.

III. **Hard Heart And Unbelief**

- A. **Unbelief** (defined/Vine's) – **Unbelief** is always rendered as “disobedience.”
 - 1. Moses disobeyed – God said he did not believe Him.
 - 2. **Hard heart** (defined) – Dry, demanding, hard to please or satisfy, difficult, injurious; a stone-like covering, dulled spiritual perception, a blindness to needs, insensibility, callous, unfeeling, unyielding; to toughen mentally or physically.
- B. Believing and miracles
 - 1. **Matthew 13:58** – Jesus could not do any mighty acts there because of their **unbelief**.
 - 2. **Matthew 17:16-20** – Disciples could not cast the demon out of the boy because of unbelief.
 - 3. **Mark 16:11-15** – Reproved for unbelief before being commissioned by God

IV. What Causes A Hard Heart?

A. Abuse of any kind

1. Walls to protect are built – stone walls, well fortified.
2. Fear of being hurt
3. Fear of being **burned**
4. Done in, taken advantage of
5. Forgiveness softens.

B. Legalism

1. **Ezekiel 11:19** – God takes a stony heart and gives a heart of flesh.
2. Law received on **stone** tablets
3. People get **“burnout”** from trying to follow all the laws.

Read the Bible in a year or pray four hours a day.
4. **Works will exhaust** you and leave no energy for believing.

Embitterment comes.
5. **Matthew 11:28** – *Come to Me, all you who labor . . .*
6. Grace softens. Mercy softens.

C. Procrastination

1. **Numbers: Chapter 13** – Caleb, one of the twelve spies, said: “Let us go up at once and do it for we are able.”

2. **Hebrews 3:7, 13, 15** – Today = **NOW**
3. **NOW** faith is.
4. **When God speaks**, grace and Anointing and the power of the Holy Spirit are there to act.
5. Action prevents hardness.

D. Excess – lack of balance

1. Prosperity message
Healing message
Gifts of the Spirit
Confession
2. I was hardened into unbelief, and I had to see the truth of my condition to be set free.
3. Balance prevents hardness.

E. Disappointment from trials and considering (thinking on) the negatives – your problems

1. Example: Considering what you have not when you should be considering what you have.
2. Praise and thankfulness will soften a hard heart.
3. Being thankful, grateful, and saying so softens.

