

Ab. 3:7-4:11

SUBJECT: They that Fall  
in the Wilderness

D 5/59

(GP)

Heb. 3:7 - 4:11

THEY THAT FELL IN THE WILDERNESS

The marked contrast between 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> chapters, Hebrews.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> "the country chapter" of the Bible. Like a dream, November day: landscape described with sweeping rain, rocky leaves falling in shadow to find a grave in the damp, ridged soil.

The 4<sup>th</sup> like the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, the green pastures, the still waters, the cool, soft midsummer day.

Like the 7<sup>th</sup> of the chapters of Romans. But each chapter representative as representative of the inner Christian life. Majority of Christians live, die in the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Hebrews, the 7<sup>th</sup> of Romans.

I. The Wilderness Experience.

Israel the morning after the deliverance at the Red Sea. New nation a powder position, victorious Power & tyrant broken by marvelous miracles. Pharaoh, Egypt left forever = Abson, behind of 77 = before, the promised land.

May a man already dreaming of vineyards, olive groves... all within a few week's march.

But of those 600,000 men, was, flanked with water, above, only 2 children left to see the land flowing with milk & honey and these with the so weary, dreary years had stout frames. The rest - carcasses fall in the wilderness. Tired in the desert waste - the sands their wispy sheet. The solitude their melancholy. How dreary the incessant presence. The perpetual sense of oriental grief mourning through the camp. What wonder that 90 written among such scenes, is so impressively sad.

The Scenery of the desert.

- (1) sand dunes.
- (2) Karachi. The hot wind laden with light, powdery dust
- (3) mirage  
 afar, the green glades for the weary traveler - but  
 looms, deceives, faintly marked.

## Emblematic of

- (1) recruits  
Tents constantly being struck & re-struck, is  
much the same thing. a perpetual weariness.
- (2) airless men  
wandering 40 years in the wilderness, no city  
of habitation, no abiding place
- (3) insatiable hunger  
no sense; hunger, thirst, this soul fastened  
within them.  
always struck, pitched tents, made camp.  
" surrounded by same monotonous horizon  
" the same food till the soul loathes it  
the cry of Soloman: "Vanity of vanities; all is vain"



III The Appeal, & Rebuttal.

1st. 3: 8 <sup>take heed - on with heart of unbelief.</sup>  
Unbelief a child not <sup>the head into of the heart.</sup>  
of a creature, <sup>the intellect,</sup> then meet it with argument  
that is in the heart. There.

Reason follows to state, the heart - 'out of the heart  
are the issues of life' - depends, such argument <sup>according to the heart,</sup>  
of heart full, faith, trust in God, reason will take part with <sup>your heart</sup>  
if <sup>what is in death, dogmas, reason filled with</sup> <sup>dogmatism, speculation.</sup>

is right, faith as natural as flowers in spring.  
f. children.

not right, skepticism takes over, faith men  
depart from God, then they deny him.

The Hardening of the Heart. 3: 13, 7, 8, 15

The hardest hearts are apt.

The shell which holds the fossil shells over winter only  
judges one a tender lot; so the most allowed criminal.

But hearts harden gradually

f. freezing of a pond; can hardly be detected  
for a long time, so this a needle fallen  
finally, down a way of days ago