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7-3-1977

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#### Recommended Citation

Vaught, W. O., "What Causes God to be Disgusted with People?" (1977). *Vaught Sermon Notes: Hebrews*. 10.

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## WHAT CAUSES GOD TO BE DISGUSTED WITH PEOPLE?

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF HEBREWS  
NUMBER 15  
HEBREWS 3:10-12

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Back in verse one of this great chapter we were told to "Concentrate on Jesus Christ." This is the highest obligation of the Christian. But the majority of believers fail to do this and that is where all the trouble begins.

HEBREWS 3:10 "Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways." This first phrase of this verse really says, "Because I was disgusted with this generation, and said." "They do always err" is a present, passive, indicative of "planao" and means to wander, to go astray, to be deceived, to be seduced. Negative volition toward doctrine always leads the believer into this condition. This Exodus generation had the wealth Egypt gave them, had daily food, had clothes and shoes that didn't wear out, had the greatest Bible teacher that lived for a thousand years, but all of this didn't change them. They had their eyes on freedom instead of the source of freedom. (Remember this--in a period of prosperity and great blessing it is so easy to forget the source of our blessings.) The passive voice of "planao" means they received this state of mind of negative volition toward doctrine because they refused to take in doctrinal truth every day. The indicative mood means that this negative condition was the continued state of their minds for those forty years in that desert.

### In Everything Give Thanks

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18 "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." This is a basic principle to which we must return every single day of our lives. God is the source of everything we have. Many people stay with doctrine until they get what they want and then they kiss God goodbye and off they go. But nothing is worthwhile apart from its source. This verse goes on to say, "And have not known" and this is an aorist, active, indicative of "gnorizo" and this means to know from doctrinal instruction. This is a culminative aorist and it means the sum total of all they have neglected to learn over a long period of time. They have been deluded over a long period of time. They were saved but they never really came to know God's ways. "Hodos" is the accusative plural and is translated "my ways." This is the way we learn what God is like God has many ways by which he can bless us. This really says, "You have not learned my ways."

### Correct Translation Of This Verse

"Because of which reversionism, I, God, was disgusted with that generation and said, they are always being deluded in their minds and have not learned my ways."

### Summary

1. The divine indictment of people in living the Christian life is always related to Bible doctrine from which all true instruction comes. The neglect of doctrine is always the reason for breakdown. The neglect of doctrine is always the missing link.

2. This indictment is not centered on the things they failed to do, but rather on the things they failed to learn. In the development of character, the important thing is not doing some service but learning some doctrine. (Some preacher will come along and chide his people by the pious platitude "What have you done for God today, my brother?" when the real important question is "What have you learned about God today?") No doctrine in the mind is the problem.
3. Because of this believers in every generation are under perpetual divine discipline and if they push on far enough in reversionism, they will end up in the sin unto death. Many people die the sin unto death because God decided not to leave them here any longer to clutter up the place.
4. This verse is laying the ground for the conclusion God reached as shown in the next verse. God wanted to bless them but they slapped his hands and wouldn't let him do it.
5. Remember this--The Land of Canaan is not a picture of heaven, but rather Canaan is a picture of the super grace life. This is the super grace life of blessings, and stability and happiness and love.
6. This Exodus generation went into reversionism in the desert and never did enter into super grace and that's why they died in the desert. God wanted them to go in but they just couldn't.
7. Reversionism has no capacity and therefore they couldn't enter the land.

HEBREWS 3:11 "So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.)" The little word "so" is a comparative particle from "Hos." It really means "Now in keeping with the facts just given." "I swear" is an aorist, active, indicative of "omnumi" and means to make a solemn oath, as solemn as anyone can make. This is a nomic aorist and means that this is a fact, a certainty. This generation would not enter the land. God himself made this oath. It means "I promise with a solemn oath." "In my wrath" is "en" plus the locative of "orge" and this means indignation. This really means an oath taken in your own name. Something like "My name is not God if I let this happen." In other words, God was saying that on the basis of his name and character this thing was not going to be. In other words, "I am not God if I let this happen" is the force of this language. It should read, "If they shall enter" and it is a future, active, indicative of "eiserchomai." This word "eiserchomai" means to enter into something and take full possession of it. The words "my rest" come from "eis" plus "katapausis" and it means a state of settled rest, a state of complete happiness. Canaan is not a place representing heaven but a place that represents the super grace life. Jude 5 and 1 Cor. 10:5 both say the same thing.

#### THE DOCTRINE OF RESTS OR SABBATHS

1. Salvation is described in terms of rest. Matthew 11:28 Rest refers to salvation. This is the rest of eternal life. Eternal life is described as tranquility and blessing.

2. The land of Canaan is a type of the super grace life and in this context grace means super grace. It means the maximum use of faith-rest with doctrine. This is our verse here in Hebrews 3:1 and also verse 19 and Hebrews 4:1-3.
3. A third kind of rest is the sabbath rest. Genesis 2:2-3  
The verb is "shabath" and it means to rest, to relax, to have tranquility. Everything had been provided for man and God rested. He was not tired, but had made a total grace provision for all of man's needs. The sabbath was a memorial to the grace of God. Under grace, God always provides everything.
4. The sabbath for Israel. Exodus 20:8-11, Deut. 5:12-15  
This came every Saturday. The last day of the week. They were to work for six days and then had to stop working for six days. It was a reminder of grace. You can do nothing for salvation and blessing and that's what the sabbath was to teach them. Therefore the sabbath was a teaching aid and it was designed to teach grace to Israel. Almost everyone could understand this.
5. The sabbatical year for Israel. Exodus 23:10-11, Leviticus 25:3-4, 26:33-37  
Every seven years they were supposed to stop working. It was a year's vacation. They were to stop all business, all work and for a whole year, they were to depend on God's provision. (This is taught in the first administration of the 5th cycle of discipline to Israel when they were taken to Babylon for 70 years. They were promised 490 years in the land and they failed to give God his year and he collected them all together.) Daniel 9:2, Jeremiah 25:11-12, Jeremiah 29:10, 2 Chronicles 36:20-21 and also Leviticus 26.
6. A moment by moment sabbath for the Church Age.  
Please notice that the Church Age does not have a sabbath. No seventh day in our plan of worship. He gave us instead a moment by moment sabbath. Hebrews 4:1-3  
We as believers are in the growing stage moment by moment.
7. Illustrations of the moment by moment sabbaths.
  - a. Abraham--Romans 4:17-21
  - b. Moses at the Red Sea--Exodus 14:10-14
  - c. The bones of Joseph--Hebrews 11:22
  - d. Caleb and the giants. Numbers 13 and 14 compared to Joshua 14:6-14, Joshua 15:14 and Judges 1:20.

HEBREWS 3:12 "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God." This is a warning against reversionism.

"Take heed" is a present, active, imperative of "blepo" and it really means look out! beware! God is saying, "I command you to do this." Constantly be on the lookout! "Adelphos" means that this command is for all born again believers.

"Lest" is a negative purpose clause of "mepote" and this is a very strong purpose clause. It really means "That there not be in any of you."

"En" plus the locative of "tis" means "inside of you." Then we have the words "An evil heart" and it means a worthless heart, a heart minus doctrine. The word is "poneros" and it means an evil heart of unbelief. Then we have the word "apistia" and this word means that the believer has not rejected Jesus Christ but he has rejected Bible doctrine. It really means "a malignant heart of unbelief." Then we have "In departing" and this is from "aphistemi" and it means to depart, to revolt. So it says, "In revolting from the always living God. The word for "living" is a present, active, participle of "zao."