

“The Hardening of a Heart” (Part 2)  
Romans 11:7-10 & 25

- What was Israel seeking?
  - Israel was seeking righteousness or right standing with God. You can seek God with your own righteousness by works or you can seek a “foreign” righteousness by faith in Christ (Romans 9:30-32; Romans 10:1-4).
- What is their table?
  - The table of Israel was the blessings that came from obedience to the Word of God (Romans 9:5-6). The table (obedience to God’s Word) was a place of protection, nourishment, and feasting (Psalm 16:5-6; Psalm 23:5; Psalm 31:19-20; Psalm 78:17-22).
  - Their unbelief in Christ being the Messiah, lead to the Word (the table) being judgment instead of justification, blindness instead of sight, stumbling instead of strength, and slavery instead of freedom (Romans 10:12-13 & 21).
  - Psalm 69, along with many other portions of Scripture (Luke 24:25-27; Psalm 22, Isaiah 53), show us that the Messiah was going to suffer for the sins of the people, before reigning as King over His people (John 15:25 & Psalm 69:4; John 2:17 & Psalm 69:9; Romans 15:3 & Psalm 69:9; Matthew 27:34 & Psalm 69:21; Romans 11:9-10 & Psalm 69:22-23). In Psalm 69 you also see that there is judgment (Psalm 69:22-28) on those who caused this great suffering (a hardening).
  - If Israel had not been left in their condition of unbelief, they would not have crucified Christ (Acts 2:23; Acts 4:27-28; 1 Corinthians 1:23 & 2:8).
- The doctrine of hardening:
  - Everyone, outside of Christ, has a hardened heart (Ephesians 2:1-3 & 4:17-21). We can participate in willfully hardening our hearts (Romans 1:18-32):
    - *They* sin and suppress truth (Romans 1:18) and believe and promote lies (Romans 1:25). *We* put to death sin in our lives (Romans 8:12-13) and believe and promote the truth (Colossians 1:9-14).
    - *They* deny God as Creator and do not glorify Him for His beauty seen in all Creation (Romans 1:19-21), and instead worship the creation (Romans 1:25). *We* proclaim God as the Creator of all things (John 1:1-3) and strive to glorify Him in all we do and say in a life of worship (1 Corinthians 10:31; Romans 12:1-2).
    - *They* desire to sin more and more leading to the approval and promotion of others' sin (Romans 1:21-22 & 32). *We* call sin, sin, and address sin in our brothers and sisters lives (Matthew 18:15-18; Psalm 141:4-5).
      - Out of a hardened heart comes sin (Matthew 15:18-19). The hardened heart is deceitful above all things and desperately sick (Jeremiah 17:9). We need our heart of stone removed and we need a heart of flesh (Ezekiel 36:26-28; Romans 8:7-9; Romans 8:12-14).

A hardened heart is a condition that both man and Satan contribute to (Ephesians 2:1-3; 2 Corinthians 4:4), but God is sovereign or ultimate over (Romans 9:17-18; Genesis 50:20; Romans 8:28). Man participates in his own hardening by his willful desire to continue on sinning because he delights in sinning. He believes that sinning is superior to submission to and delight in God. Satan participates in our hardening by blinding us to the gospel and by influencing us through temptation to disobey God and not give God glory for His goodness to mankind. God rescues or leaves someone in this condition, ultimately, according to His purposes and will (Daniel 2:20-22; Daniel 4:34-35; Psalm 115:3). Yet Satan and man always act according to their wills and are responsible for their actions. God will never harden a heart that was not already willfully hardened towards God and His grace. But it is only by the grace and mercy of God that someone can be rescued from the condition of a hardened heart (Romans 11:5-6).

**Worship:** God is For Us (City Alight)      Rock of Ages (Norton Hall Band)

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery (Matt Boswell)      **Closing Song:** He Will Hold Me Fast (Norton Hall Band)

**Service Times:** Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;  
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- A final warning....
  - We are told in Hebrews 3:12-14 that a “Christian” can be hardened by sin leading to them not persevering to the end, proving to not be a follower of Christ (1 John 2:19). So how can we prevent being “hardened by the deceitfulness of sin”?
    - Encourage and be encouraged by the Word of God (Hebrews 3:12-14).
    - Ask God to search our hearts (Psalm 139:23-24).
    - Hide God’s Word in our hearts (Psalm 119:9-11).
    - Spend time daily in God’s Word (Hebrews 4:12-13).
    - Confess our sins (1 John 1:9).

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**Announcements:**

\***Volunteers:** We have a couple of wonderful opportunities for our church members to get involved in serving our church body:

1. CHILDREN’S MINISTRY: If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions about serving in this ministry, please talk to Kalen and Courtney!
2. SET-UP/TEAR-DOWN MINISTRY: We are looking for volunteers who would be interested in helping with the set-up and tear-down of the facility for the worship services. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions, please talk to Hunter!

\***Heartbeats Donations:** **TODAY** is our last Sunday to collect for the Heartbeats’ Virtual Bottles for Life 2021 Campaign. Please put your monetary donations into the container on the back table. *You can still give electronically, directly to Heartbeats, until NEXT Sunday, June 20th (that giving information is on the card in front of the collection container on the back table).*

\***4th of July Service:** Our annual 4th of July Service will be on Sunday, July 4th, at the Davis Residence. There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something for our annual outdoor service and fellowship dinner.

\***Baptism:** Our next Baptism Service is NEXT Sunday, June 20th. If you are interested in or have any questions about baptism, please see Pastor Jeremey or Pastor Joel or one of our Elders.

\***Fellowship Dinner:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner NEXT Sunday, June 20th, immediately following the worship service! There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something. We invite EVERYONE to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!