

## Hebrews 3:7-19

### "Brotherly love"



One particular aspect of "brotherly love", though, and something that goes beyond mere sympathetic feeling. In a society which highly prizes individuality, how prepared are we to be involved in keeping *one another's* spiritual lives on track? Isn't this horrendously intrusive? Is it really anyone else's business how I follow Jesus Christ? ... or, maybe, start to *not* follow him?

➤ **The pressure to hide our faith**

Do you feel under similar pressure to keep your faith unobtrusive, as society becomes more set against Gospel values?

➤ **"An evil, unbelieving heart"** (12)

How could this start to grow? What are the seeds that could take root? What counts as "unbelief" in this context?

➤ **"Exhort"** (13)

A very broad word in meaning, including the attractive concept of "comfort", but also some far more (aggressive? Intrusive?) nuances of challenge.

Which do you more easily give?

Which do you more easily receive?

In entering true church fellowship, you are opting into *both* giving and receiving *both* aspects of "exhortation". Just how comfortably does that really sit with you?

➤ **"Every day"** (13)

Everyday exhortation, or everyday *readiness* to?

Can we *prepare* to be ready for this? (If so, just how?)

➤ **"Hardened"** (13)

Have you ever noticed "hardening" happening in your own spiritual life? How did you become aware of it? And what did you do about it?

➤ **"Deceitfulness"** (13)

If we *think* we are not easily prone to deceit ... could that mean we are already deceived? (remember 1 John 1:8)