

# **THE DANGER OF DEPARTING FROM THE LIVING GOD**

## **PART 2**

In the first part of this study we noticed that Paul tells the Corinthian believers that the Israelites in the wilderness were like them in a number of ways, yet some of the Israelites were overthrown. We noted that Hebrews 3 gives us background for our text passage, and informs us that all of the Israelites' actions can in some way be related to unbelief – that is, failure to maintain a vital faith in God – and that in this unbelief they departed from the living God.

With this as background we looked at the five things that the Israelites did. They lusted after evil things, turned to idolatry, committed fornication, spoke presumptuously against the Lord, and complained bitterly. These sins are forms of expressing dissatisfaction with God; and in their departure from vital faith in God, the Israelites moved toward idolatry. We noted that they wanted a different kind of God than Jehovah; and we discovered that they wanted a God who was different in five ways.

They wanted a God who: (1) would gratify their appetites; (2) was tangible; (3) would allow them to explore their sexual potential more fully; (4) would relieve