

The Promise of Entering His Rest - Hebrews Pt 05

REVIEW Heb 3:14-19 **Today when you hear his voice, don't harden your hearts** as Israel did when they rebelled....to whom was God speaking when he took an oath that they **would never enter his REST**? Wasn't it the people who disobeyed him? (19) So we see that because of their unbelief they were not able to enter his REST.....SLIDE - no chapters when written.....Heb 4:1 **God's promise of entering his REST still stands, so we ought to tremble with fear that some of you might fail to experience it.** (2) For this good news—that God has prepared this REST—has been announced to us just as it was to them. But it did them no good because they didn't share the faith of those who listened to God.

- **Called to enter HIS REST** something good but they feared
- **REST mentioned 2x chap 3 15x chap 4** (creation, canaan, joshua, david, hebrews, and today 6000 yrs)
- **God Speaks** - hear voice, god speaking, Gods promise, Good news announced
- **Response to God speaking** - hardened heart, disobedience, unbelief vs FAITH and LISTENED TO GOD
- Parallel → Hebrews going back to the law, is like Israel not going into promised land → DON'T MISS IT!

(3) **For only we who believe can enter his REST.** As for the others, God said, "In my anger I took an oath: 'They will never enter my place of REST even though this REST has been ready since he made the world.'

- **Only those who believe can enter HIS REST (EXAMPLE joshua and caleb - the others will never)**
- **HIS REST originated in creation ...it is still available to Hebrews 4,000 years later**

(4) We know it is ready because of the place in the Scriptures where it mentions the seventh day: "**On the seventh day God RESTED from all his work**." (5) But in the other passage God said, "They will never enter my place of REST." (6) So **God's REST is there for people to enter**, but those who first heard this good news failed to enter because they disobeyed God.

- He wasn't tired - REST is **Resting from his WORK** - FINISHED CEASED - GOOD, Eden for God and man
- HIS REST available 7th day - Israel failed to enter because of disobedience ~ 2,600 years rest still available

(7) So **God set another time** for entering his REST, and **that time is TODAY**. God announced this through David much later in the words already quoted: "Today when you hear his voice, don't harden your hearts." (8) Now if **Joshua had succeeded in giving them this REST**, God would not have spoken about another **day of REST still to come**.

- 400 years later David (ps 95) calls out TODAY & REST --it was after the giving of the Sabbath (not that) --
- Through David, God is speaking about another DAY OF REST STILL TO COME → Hebrews and US
- ~ 6000 yrs from creation the Spirit keeps saying "**Today if you hear his voice, don't harden your hearts**"

(9) So **there is a special REST still waiting** for the people of God.

- **A Special Rest STILL WAITING - sabbatismos (used 1x in NT) vs katapausis elsewhere in Hebrews**
- God's rest **was never about a day** — David called for it long after the sabbath was instituted— **it was not about the Land** even tho Joshua took them in, if HE had given rest there would not have been another call from David — its **entering into HIS REST**..initially in creation and ultimately in the **finished work of Jesus**
- **Future** God & man together (eden restored) we enter it now **now** (God has called for this throughout history)

(10) For all who have **entered into God's REST have RESTED from their labors, just as God did after creating the world**.

- How do we know we have entered his rest...(1) Only those who **believe** can enter the rest, and (2) if you enter you REST FROM YOUR WORK
- He is calling the Hebrews, to NOT go back to the works of the law -- REST FROM YOUR work and trust in the finished work of Christ
 - Joh 19:30 When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "**It is finished!**" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

- Col 2:16-17 So don't let anyone condemn you for what you eat or drink, or for not celebrating certain holy days or new moon ceremonies or Sabbaths. (17) For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And **Christ himself is that reality**.
- Mat 11:28-29 Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and **I will give you REST**. (29) Take **my yoke** upon you. **Let me teach** you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and **you will find REST for your souls**.

(11) **So let us do our best to enter that REST**. But if we disobey God, as the people of Israel did, we will fall.

- **Strive to enter that rest**...work at resting...man was meant to live in that rest (redemption restores)
- Rest from your labors as God did from His -- **don't go back under the law that is back to works**
 - Gal 2:16 yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

HOW? He has given us his POWERFUL WORD -- to reveal the place of our hearts how will we respond?

- But if we **disobey** God, as the people of Israel did, we will fall. (12) **For the word of God is alive and powerful**. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. **It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires**. (13) **Nothing in all creation is hidden** from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom **we are accountable**.

HOW He sits upon a throne of Grace to Help us in our weakness

- (14) So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. (15) This High Priest of ours **understands our weaknesses**, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he **did not sin**. (16) So let us come **boldly to the throne** of our gracious God. There we will **receive his mercy**, and we will find **grace to help us when we need it most**.

SUMMARY Entering God's rest for a modern Christian means living every day out of Christ's finished work instead of living as if your acceptance with God rises and falls on your performance. Hebrews 4 calls believers to a diligent, faith-filled resting in Christ that produces obedience, not a lazy passivity or a return to law-keeping.

Respond?

1. **Rest in His Finished Work** Entering rest means ceasing from using spiritual disciplines, ministry, or morality as a way to earn favor, and instead seeing them as responses to favor already given in Christ.
2. **Respond Today in Faith** - Entering rest is responding quickly in faith to the ordinary "todays" (forgiving, confessing, serving, yielding plans) instead of delaying until feelings or circumstances improve.
3. **Fight to stay AT REST** - rest in the finished work of Christ... fight to keep your heart anchored in Jesus, not in your record (days of fasting, how many times I read the bible, how many people I shared the gospel with)
4. **Let the word expose** the hidden areas of the heart -do not just search the Scriptures for information; invite Scripture to search you to point out rebellion, disobedience, hard heartedness or religious self-trust.
5. **Run to the Throne of Grace** Entering rest means that when these show up, or when you sin or feel weak, you run toward God rather than hiding until you "clean up," expecting mercy and help because of Christ, not because of a good streak.