

Series "Jesus Is Better"
"Don't Miss God's Rest"
Hebrews 4:1-13
Study-8

Hebrews 3:1-4:13 – Jesus, Better Than Moses.

"5 Problem Passages In Hebrews"

- 1. Drifting From The Word – 2:1-4 (Neglect)**
- 2. Doubting The Word – 3:7-4:13 (Hard Heart)**

Hebrews 3:7-19 – Harden Not Your Hearts
Hebrews 4:1-13 – Don't Miss God's Rest

The Thought Of Our Passage: "God's Promise To Enter His Rest Must Incorporate The Believers Faith, Which Is Trusting God Wholeheartedly."

- 1. Verses 1-2 – Promise Requires A Response**
- 2. Verses 3-7 – Response Is Required Today**
- 3. Verses 8-11 – Rest Is A Spiritual Rest**
- 4. Verses 12-13 – God's Word Directs Us To Rest**

1. Verses 1-2 – Promise Requires A Response:

Hebrews 4:1

"Therefore," – What is the therefore there for? Hebrews 3:18-19

1 Corinthians 10:11

Fearing The Consequences Of Our Actions: "let us fear"

Fear – "to be put in fear, alarm or fright, be afraid, exceedingly, fear, terror."

Proverbs 1:7; Philippians 2:12

Israel failed at Kadesh because they feared the inhabitants of Canaan rather than God. Numbers 13:32

Failure To Believe God's Promises: The word **Rest** – based upon the verb "to cease"; it literally means "to cease down" or "to thoroughly cease".

The Canaan rest for Israel is not heaven, but a “picture of the spiritual rest we find in Christ when we surrender to Him.”

When we come to Christ by faith, we find Salvation Rest; Matthew 11:28 – The first is “peace with God”, Romans 5: 1.

When we yield and learn of Him and obey Him by faith, we enjoy Submission Rest; Matthew 11:29-30 – This is “peace of God”, Philipians 4:6-8.

“promise remains” – His rest

Romans 4:20-23

Failure To Enter His Rest: “any one of you should seem to have come short of it.” Hebrews 4:11

Hebrews 4:2

We Need To Hear The Gospel: “For indeed we have had good news preached to us,” – Hearing takes place before believing; Romans 10:14,17 – “We are evangelized people.”

Hebrews 2:3

“just as they also;” – “God was communicating with men”, Numbers 13:30.

We Must Have Faith: “but the word” – Logos, Greek word used for “revelation of God, word hearing”; “they heard did not profit them,”

Numbers 14:7-9

1 Thessalonians 2:13

2. Verses 3-7 – Response Is Required Today:

Hebrews 4:3

Matthew 11:28

Psalms 95:11; Numbers 14

Verses 4-5 – The Meaning Of Rest

Verse 4 – Creation Rest

Genesis 2:2

Exod. 20:8-11

Verse 5 – Salvation Rest: Hebrews 4:5

Verses 6-7 – The Hope Of Rest: Hebrews 4:6

The hope of rest is always centered upon Faith, Which Is Trusting God Wholeheartedly!

Hebrews 4:7

The “today” can be seen as the period when God is speaking and men are hearing His voice.

3. Verses 8-11 – Rest Is A Spiritual Rest:

Hebrews 4:8

Psalm 95:11; Joshua 21:43-44

Verses 9-10 – The Reality Of Rest: Hebrews 4:9

There are three different words used for “rest” in the Scriptures:

1st Word for “Rest” refers to “the rest of sleep, the rest which brings positive refreshment to a weary person.”

2nd Word for “Rest” refers to “cessation from activity, the quitting of work.”

3rd Word for “Rest” refers to “the sabbath rest of God.”

Promise Of Rest Available To Each Believer: “There remains therefore a Sabbath rest”

1 Peter 2:10

Our Rest As Christians Is Not In A Day But In A Person! John 19:30

God’s Rest Can Be Enjoyed Today: Hebrews 4:10

Hebrews 4:11

Appeal And Promise Of Rest: “Let us therefore”

“be diligent to enter that rest,” – Literally, “let us strive earnestly, let us give diligence, or let us give haste.”

Diligence is the opposite of “Drifting”, Hebrews 2:1-3.

Romans 10:17

4. Verses 12-13 – God’s Word Directs Us To Rest:

Hebrews 4:12

“For the word of God” – Who Or What Can Determine Whether A Person Has Genuine Faith? The answer “For the word of God”, 39X NT.

5 Characteristics Of The Divine Word:

- 1. The Word Of God Is Living:** “is living” – “quick”; It is living because the God who spoke it is living, Hebrews 3:12.

Isaiah 55:10-11

- 2. The Word Of God Is Powerful:** “and active” – “energetic” It literally means an “in-working or work within”; The Word not only tells men what to do, but it also provides the motivation and power to do it, Colossians 1:29.

- 3. The Word Of God Is Sharper:** “and sharper than any two-edged sword,” – Ephesians 6:17 Means “a short sword or dagger.”

John 12:48

- 4. The Word Of God Is Piercing:** “and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow,” – signifies that the word penetrates to the inmost recesses of our spiritual being as a sword cuts through the joints and marrow of the body.

- 5. The Word Of God Is The Discerner:** “and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” – The emphasis is on the power of the Word to penetrate and expose the inner heart of man. The Word is a “discerner” or “critic.”

Hebrews 4:13

The God Of The Word: “And there is no creature hidden from His sight,”

God See's Everything: "but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him"

"but all things are" – the word open, Greek word for "neck".

"with whom we have to do." – A person can reject God's Word, Resist God's Word, but all men will answer to God!

Application:

1. This Passage Reveals The Vital Importance Of Warning Against Unbelief, And The Necessity Of True Faith In The Word Of God.
2. The Bible Is The Word Of God. It Is Essential For Every Aspect Of Spiritual Life.

Word Of God Convicts Of Sin – Heb 4:12

Word Of God Converts The Soul – Psalm 19:7

Word Of God Cleanses The Conscience – John 15:3

Word Of God Consecrates The Life – John 17:17

Word Of God Corrects The Wrong – 2 Timothy 3:16

Word Of God Confirms The Right – John 8:31

Word Of God Comforts And Encourages The Heart – Psalm 119:50,54

3. In Studying God's Word, It Requires Careful Consideration, Continual Meditation, And Close Application Of The Mind, Heart, And Will.