

A Better Rest Is Yet To Come

(Series: Jesus Is Better)

Text: Hebrews 4:1-11

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Recap:

Here is the exciting thing — Jesus, being the Son, makes all those who believe in Him as Savior children and heirs of His inheritance!

[Romans 8:17](#) “17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.”

Remember, exercising faith is not about instant gratification, but rather a movement of our heart and life in light of the future promises we have in Jesus Christ.

In chapter 4, the writer will further explain the “rest” that was lost by God’s people and that any present or future believer is at risk of losing some/much of God’s promised “rest” if disobedience is practiced.

1) The Tragedy Of Doubt

Verses 1-4

- Context: “Therefore”...this is based on the author’s example of [Psalm 95](#).
- (v2) “the gospel” = this should be seen as “good news”
- (v2) “the word they heard did not profit them” WHY??? “not mixed with faith.”
- “the gospel” (or good news) should be seen as the future kingdom inheritance we can have if we, by faith, obey Christ until the end.
- Unlike those in the wilderness who missed out, (v3) “we which have believed do enter into rest.”
- “have believed” = (Greek perfect tense) Meaning, past action with continued consequences. In other words, they are still believing in the future kingdom promises that will be given to them in Christ.
- The consequences in the wilderness “foreshadow” the consequences that would come to those in the first century if they continued down the path of disobedience instead of enduring until the end.
- Turn to [Genesis 2:2](#) “2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.”
 - The reason it did not say, “the evening and morning were the seventh day,” is that God’s rest from creating would not end.
 - His point is this: since the land “rest” is not available to us today, the “rest” in view must be of a different nature.
 - The “rest” that is found in Christ that will be enjoyed in the future kingdom is a promise that never ceases and will be enjoyed for eternity.

2) Your Heart Is _____ By The Word

Verses 12-13

- [Isaiah 55:11](#) “11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: It shall not return unto me void, But it shall accomplish that which I please, And it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”
- [Colossians 3:16](#) “16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”
 - “Discerner” is the Greek word Kritikos. That is where we get our word “critique.”
 - [2 Corinthians 10:1-5](#) “1 Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you: 2 But I beseech you, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh. 3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: 4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;”

- [James 1:13](#) “13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man.”
- [2 Corinthians 5:10](#) “10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”
- Quote: (Hutson Smelley) “The bema judgement is with a view to our faith being approved and rewarded, and has nothing to do with the question of our justification, for even the believer whose life burns up completely is saved.”
- [1 Corinthians 3:10–15](#) “10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is. 14 If any man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”
- [Matthew 16:25–27](#) “25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.”

3) Your High Priest Knows Your _____

Verses 14-16

- Q — What crucial step did Jesus have to make for the role of High Priest to ever be His? What form did Jesus have to take for this to happen?

Conclusion

You will never once find the writer tell these believers to leave church or stop communicating when the trials come. Actually, he admonishes them to do the complete opposite!