

Hebrews 3:1-4:13

Holding Fast to Christ (pt. 2)

¹² Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.

¹³ But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

(Hebrews 3:12-13)

Hebrews 3:7-19

- The failure of the Exodus generation under Moses to enter Canaan because of unbelief serves as a powerful warning to us not to fall away from God in unbelief
- Use of Psalm 95

Psalm 95:1-11

O come, let us sing for joy to the LORD,
Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.
² Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving,
Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.
³ For the LORD is a great God
And a great King above all gods,
⁴ In whose hand are the depths of the earth,
The peaks of the mountains are His also.
⁵ The sea is His, for it was He who made it,
And His hands formed the dry land.
⁶ Come, let us worship and bow down,
Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

⁷ For He is our God,
And we are the people of His pasture and the
sheep of His hand.

Today, if you would hear His voice,

⁸ Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
As in the day of Massah in the wilderness,

⁹ "When your fathers tested Me,
They tried Me, though they had seen My work.

¹⁰ "For forty years I loathed *that* generation,
And said they are a people who err in their heart,
And they do not know My ways.

¹¹ "Therefore I swore in My anger,
Truly they shall not enter into My rest."

Hebrews 4:1-11

Therefore, let us fear lest, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it. ² For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard. ³ For we who have believed enter that rest, just as He has said,

"AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH,
THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST,"

although His works were finished from the foundation of the world.

⁴ For He has said somewhere concerning the seventh day: "AND GOD RESTED ON THE SEVENTH DAY FROM ALL HIS WORKS"; ⁵ and again in this *passage*, "THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST."

⁶Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience, ⁷He again fixes a certain day, "Today," saying through David after so long a time just as has been said before,

"TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,
DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS."

⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that. ⁹So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. ¹⁰For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His. ¹¹Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience

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1. A Continued Warning

- let us fear lest we fail to enter God's rest
- failure to enter God's rest is the result of unbelief in God's word

Q: *What place does fear have in the Christian life?*

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2. An Abiding Promise

- The existence of God's rest
 - God's "rest" has existed since the creation of the world (Gen. 2:2)
 - God's rest is the consummation of His purpose for the creation

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2. An Abiding Promise

- The remaining promise of God's rest
 - Psalm 95 teaches that entering God's rest is available "today"
 - possessing the land of Canaan was not the fulfillment of God's rest, but only a type of it
 - there remains a final "Sabbath-keeping"

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What is this "rest"?

- it is salvation-rest characterized by a ceasing from works
- it is a final rest characterized by no toil, sorrow, pain or death – an unhindered, unending, ever-increasing enjoyment of God