

Hebrews 3:1-4:13

Holding Fast to Christ (pt. 3)

*O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.*

*Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.*

(Robert Roberson, 1757)

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¹¹ Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through *following* the same example of disobedience.

¹² For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

¹³ And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

Hebrews 4:11-13

Holding Fast to Christ (pt. 3)

- An urgent exhortation: *let us be diligent to enter God's rest*

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1. When do we enter God's rest?
 - both now and in the future ("*already & not yet*")

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1. When do we enter God's rest?

- now ("today") – we enter the "salvation-rest" inaugurated by Jesus (c.f. Matt. 11:28)
- future – we fully possess the "heavenly-rest" secured by Jesus (*the lasting city, the New Jerusalem, the new heaven and new earth*)

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2. How do we enter God's rest?

- through a persevering, obedient faith in God's promise in Christ (i.e. by holding fast to Christ until the end)
- by a diligent attention to nurturing our faith in God's promise and a vigilance over our hearts against sin and unbelief

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2. How do we enter God's rest?

- The necessity of mutual encouragement for entering God's rest (3:12-13)

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3. Why is this exhortation so urgent?

- because the word of God is powerful and brings with it its own devastating judgment
- because the word of God is able to judge the intentions of the heart and expose unbelief before God...to whom we must give account