

Hebrews 4.1-2

Our True Rest...

The promised land was Rest. It was rest from all manner of evil, and all manner of trial... it was rest from

Wandering homeless

Slavery

Cruel mastery

Toil and labor

But it was ultimately an invitation to come unto something, and a picture of coming unto something more. Last week we spoke about the rest God offers in this life, but we must also consider the rest He promises at the end of our sojourn. It is a rest still for us to come unto ~

I. THE REST OF HEAVEN

a. Resting from all our labors –

Revelation 14:13 (NKJV)

¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' "

"Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

a. Resting from all our striving

Romans 8.18-25

b. Resting from all the pain and sorrow of this life.

Acts 7.54-60

II. TARGET OF REST –

a. The manifest presence of God in Christ –

2Corinthians 3.16-4.6

b. The glory of His countenance

c. The splendor of His awesome perfections

III. THE PERSON OF CHRIST –

a. He is the Sabbath of God

- i. He offers us rest, which is the heart of the Sabbath

Matthew 11:28–30 (NKJV)

²⁸ Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

- ii. He prepares a place for us to be with Him, that we might rest in Him.

John 14:1–3 (NKJV)

***14** “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it*

were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

iii. He cares for our needs –

Mark 6:30–31 (NKJV)

³⁰ Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught. ³¹ And He said to them, “Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.

b. He is the vindication of God's glory, the final rest from all conflict at His return

2Thessalonians 1.3-10

c. He is fulfillment of all God's promises as well - we access this fulfillment when we believe (v10)

d. He is the yes and amen of God

2 Corinthians 1.18-22

e. He is the perfect ground and stability of all God's grace and power.

1Peter 1.13-16

IV. TO REFUSE CHRIST IS TO REJECT REST

a. The eternal, endless reality of endless, restless punishment

Revelation 14.9-11

b. The endless wandering in the desert until their corpses littered the wilderness

- c. The lack of the good things provided for them in the land
- d. To forever lack and deplore the comfort and wonder of eternity in God's favorable presence
- e. To eternally be immersed in the pain, sorrow and horror of God's wrathful presence.

V. UNMIXED WITH FAITH

The difference is the lack of faith being mixed with the gospel. The communication of something profound and essential, the conveyance of God's merciful GIFT of faith!

- a. What faith?
 - i. Faith that God will do all that He promised
 - ii. Faith that He will forgive
 - iii. Faith that the reward of His presence is worth the pain of translation
 - iv. Faith that nothing else will ever suffice

b. We have the gospel preached unto us and it takes root, grows and produces the fruit of righteousness in us - because it was **mixed with faith** in us who heard. The conveyance of the gospel in power **is the faith that God gives** with it... faith that comes by (with) the hearing of God's Word.

Romans 10:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

c. the gospel becomes a carrier wave for the faith that God bestows... the carrier itself does not really impart, convey or communicate anything, but is that which carries the thing which does... faith then is the component which God communicates by the proclamation of the gospel and faith is that which was lacking in the children of Israel when they turned back from the promised land and rejected God. Mark this well, they were not just rejecting His gift, but they were rejecting HIM. And it was at this

point that His anger against them settled the matter forever. He put up with all of the things that had passed in the desert, at the mountain... they were learning of God, who He was, what He could do ... but here at the border of the promised land they finally rejected Him once and for all, and they paid the price for that rejection...

- d. Beloved, I beg you to understand
 - i. understand that Christ is the final revelation of God –

Hebrews 1.1-3

- ii. He is the final word and shows us the father in every way. He declares that
 - iii. there is no other path to the Father

John 14:6 (NKJV)

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

iv. That to see Him IS to see the Father

John 14:9 (NKJV)

⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

v. That He is the One who will finally judge all of mankind

Matthew 25:31–32 (NKJV)

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

- vi. That He is the One who has made a way for us, and that He will not always be gentle Jesus meek and mild... do not waste this time on the bank of the Jordan. For that is where we all are, only a single heartbeat separates us from the eternity that waits. Do you believe, do you trust, do you rest?