

8/14/88

~~"The Saints Rest"~~
The Believers Rest

Are you tired? Have you ever noticed how when asking someone "How are you" they'll most often say, "I'm pegged out" or "I'm tired" or give some indication that they need rest —

These are busy days, the demand on our time seems to grow & grow doesn't it —
When you look at all that needs to be done, you'd probably say as we do, There's no relief in sight

So when I read in Hebrews 4 Verse 3, a reference to "Believers Rest" I wanted to know more —

Let's read what I read, where I began & where I stopped. Hebrews 4 Verse 3 —

"For we which have believed do enter into rest"
That's all a Real — It sounds so Good =

Now you know and I know that
it's not wise to do what we've
done - But I did, and I believe
there was a reason for it -

So let's consider several things
What does this mean? what does
this not mean? (you also need to read
Chapter 3, Verses 7-19)

Now stay with us, there is a
message for the saved & the lost

This part of ~~the~~ ^{the} verse of Scripture does
not mean - "Once we are saved that
we can become inactive -" on the contrary,
Now some believe they can, do nothing
It's evidenced by unfaithfulness
& disobedience (but does not please God)

It's evidenced by empty pews and
empty fields // Jesus loved to believe
"Come worship / or serve" amen

Now this Scripture does not speak
of "Perfect Rest is Heaven" ~~eternity~~
The writer of Hebrews speaks
of it as a "Present State" //
happening at a precise time -

21st For we which have believed "Do ~~not~~
Enter into rest" ~~When?~~ ~~at the~~
moment we are saved

We know this does not speak of Heaven ^{alone}
for now we do not rest, "we suffer //
we sorrow / we have pain / And there
is death -"

But, if you read Rev. 21:1-4 you'll
see there will ~~be~~ freedom from all
that - in God's good time -
~~you must~~

The Greek meaning for "Rest" as used here
is: Cessation // Refreshment // Harmony //

Now here is what the writer ^{is} saying:

① When one comes into a right
relationship with God (as saved) they
cease to fight against Him ^{or reject Him}
over debt ownership (SOUL).

The Co-Annoyance that exists between
the Individual & God "Ceases" when they are
saved - / or last person says "It's mine"
A saved person says: "My soul belongs to God"

Oh but listen, there is still a battle
going on - Spirit & flesh battle

It's a continuous one, but for the
believer, the issue has already
been decided. Brain God

You see the Devil wants your soul,
And he works through the flesh to
reach your soul & mine.

(But he can't have mine, "It belongs to God"
It's in His safe keeping) IS Yours

So "Entering into Rest" for the believer
means "a Cessation for ^{the} control of
the soul." They have come to know the
truth, and the truth has ended
this battle against God, (But not
against the devil) — He won't give up
He can't win — But he keeps working

So this Rest implies Harmony / Relaxation /
Cessation of Strife with God over the
Soul

Now it also means something else

(2) a Cessation in the life of
a True Believer, of works
performed for answer"

3/ much "Religiosity Activity" today is
made up of works, which are
"People's Own Works" (one day they'll burn up)
People are ^{so} caught up in laboring
for bread & the finer things of
life, that they have no rest
of any kind & spiritual or physical

Some even "work their own works" in the
hope that "these works will save them"
Oh but how futile the effort is:

God's Word says: "By Grace are we saved,
through faith and that not of ourselves
it is the gift of God, not of works,
lest any man should boast" Eph. 2:8/9

Notice Hebrews 4:10, "mention is made of
a cessation from our own works"

Not ceasing from "All Works" but from
those that glorify self, rather than
God -

Rest from "Our Works" (Self glorification)
Refreshes the soul, and brings
harmony to the Spirit — Do you have

Jim Crowneid found that this is
mind when he wrote: whatever ye
eat or drink, or whatever ye do,
do all for the glory of God. - Not
(1 Cor. 10:31) To Satisfy Self -

So "Rest for the Believer" is ^{also} Cessation
from work performed with "Self"
in mind of "Self Glory" as the
object or purpose.

③ "Rest" is ~~to~~ ^{from} Cease Our work and to
stop trying to do things in Our
Own Strength.

a true believer knows for
certain that unless we rely
on God's strength, we can
never accomplish what God
has left us to do. to please Him.

To say: "I can do it without God's
help" is to say - "The battle still
rages" I've not surrendered control of self

It's to say: "I'm Not into the
Believer's Rest" OR benefit fully from it

Once who truly believes says:
"My Strength is in the Lord"

41 { Only when you ^{and} Acknowledge
Him, ^{alone} we do "All things that
please Him" / For He Alone is our
Strength " Phil. 4:13

Therefore, "The Believer's Rest" is a Cessation
of "Acting Independent of God" it is
a Refreshing Experience / And it
produces a harmonious spirit in
the believer / And As Believers, we must do it
next.

④ To enter into Rest / the believer knows
that they must take every burden
to the Lord - // But not just take
it there / But leave it there -
Do you have a burden here?

Here's what Jesus said: "Come unto me
all ye who are weary and heavy
laden; and I will give you Rest"
Matt: 11:28

Only when a Believer does this, can they
truly "Enter into Rest"

Oh listen folks, The Burden is not always
Physical or material / Very often it's
Spiritual - The Result of Sin
It must be dealt with.

New festival it is for a Believer to
carry the Burden of Sin, when Gods Word
says: "If You are a Believer, You can
Confess Your Sins to God, who is
faithful & just to forgive our sins
& cleanse us from all unrighteousness"
(1 John 1:9)

^{Weary}
Oh ~~weary~~ Believer, You can have Rest,
You have the promises of God to
fall back on — If we are to
enjoy "Believers Rest" we must
learn on ~~those~~ promises —

If we ever Enter into this Rest, it'll
be when we cease to hold on to
that, which God says we must turn
loose of — ~~Amos~~ (We are all
guilty)

Up to Now the message has been
directed toward believers Rest —

"Because the Scripture in
Hebrews 4:3 is directed to believers"

But what about "Unbelievers" ^{Can}
they enter into this Rest?

5/ "Not As Unbelievers" because as
An Unbeliever you are at war with
God - You are Rebelling against
God - You are Relying on self
Rather than on God
The Holy Spirit does not dwell

Your works / no matter how Admireable
they are, will not please God, nor
bring you rest // The Contradictions
between Your way & God's way
Contradict // The Unrest Manifests
itself // The Rebellion Contradicts

The flesh Contradicts the life of an
Unbeliever - The devil has them
right where he wants them, why?
Because they Contradict to Defect
God's precious Holy Spirit -

What works An Unbeliever does, are their works /
Not His // the strength they Rely on is
their strength, Not His - there is
no rest so long as Rebellion Contradicts.

Oh but it doesn't have to be that way -
Eph. 2:8 & 9 says so. "By Grace -"

John 3:16 Says So: "Whosoever"
Rom 10:9-10 & 13 tells us how we
can have rest ~~_____~~ whosoever

Lost Person

Unbelief Robs the ~~Whosoever~~ of Rest
Pride Robs the Unbeliever of Rest
Carrying Your Own Burden Robs You of Rest
Sowed ~~is~~ ~~the~~ ~~rest~~

And if you Die Lost, there'll never be
any Rest ~~_____~~ Never, ever ~~_____~~

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
We can't blame our weariness on God,
we carry the heavy load by choice

We have heard: "Weary One, Come to Me, I'll
carry Your Load ~~_____~~"

One You have Lost & Burdened down?
Tired & Weary of being Lost ~~_____~~

Then:

- ① Stop rejecting the Holy Spirit
- ② Stop saying No to Jesus ~~_____~~
- ③ Stop relying on self ~~_____~~

You'll Never enter into Rest, until
you accept Jesus as your Saviour ~~_____~~

- ① Acknowledge Your Lost Condition
- ② Realize Your Need for a Savior
- ③ Confess Your Sin to God
- ④ Believe what the Bible Says About Jesus - "His Virgin Birth" His Sinless Life - His Death for You & Me - His Resurrection & Ascension

Ask Jesus to Save You? Believe that He did & stretch Him

There is Only One Way You enter into "Believer's Rest"

God will give you strength if He will give you courage - Step out by faith

"Believer's" Rededication will Restore the Joy of Believer's Rest If I'm Boring Back a Joy of God's Salvation you once enjoyed - Do it Now.

Looking for a church Home when Jesus is Lord Look no further - He is the head of the true body. He is Lord

Oh I promise you, we look to God
for His message - We rely on Him
to give us understanding & direction

We may lack in formal education, but
we rely on God - We'd invite you
to come, we'd accept you any
way this body accepts faith.
You'll be loved, you'll be
ministered to, And you can
serve if you will -

There is a horror here the devil
continually seeks to destroy, but it
preyons because Jesus is Lord,
And He gets all the glory.

Barry