

“REST FOUND!”
(Hebrews 4:1-16)
(October 22, 2017)

“A vacation sometimes begins with your needing a rest, but more often ends that way!”

**We often don't find rest WHERE we are looking for it.
Thankfully, rest is still available to us, as:**

I. A place of God's DESIGN

The Promise of Land to the Israelites was GOD'S initiative. It was to be their place of rest, a place of milk and honey (God's goodness).

But, God's offerings must be ACCEPTED.

God's plan and design were CLEAR -their failure to accept it cost them dearly.

Nevertheless, the author says the Hebrew Christians are still able to receive God's blessing and rest, but through a DIFFERENT pathway.

II. Not just a historical incident, but a SPIRITUAL principle

***The basis of entering God's rest is OBEDIENCE**

- ***Disobedience PREVENTS entering his rest**

This truth is for all who hear the gospel.

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- ***The TIMING of obedience matters**

If you have heard the gospel, THIS is the day. Do not delay, do not disobey, for the sake of your SOUL.

III. Historically, rest was NOT won

Joshua was unable to bring the people rest, EVEN in the Promised Land because of their disobedience. Thankfully:

- ***Another Day IS coming**

Throughout Scripture, we are told of “The Day of the Lord.”

*The eyes of the arrogant man will be humbled and the pride of men brought low;
the Lord alone will be exalted that day.* *Isaiah 2:11*

Be silent before the Sovereign Lord, for the day of the Lord is near.

Zephaniah 1:7

“There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day.” *John 12:48*

- ***Meanwhile, don't NEGLECT the Sabbath!**

After God created, HE rested. He also COMMANDED his people to observe a day of rest:

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. *Exodus 20:8*

For six days, work is to be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day must be put to death.

Exodus 31:15

The solution is found in God's ANSWER to our contrary hearts – Jesus.

The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath. *Mark 2:27*

We definitely want to remind ourselves of the principle God set out and even modeled for us – we MUST rest.

The law was designed by God to lead us to Christ:

So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. *Galatians 3:24*

IV. But, rest IS found

- ***By striving to OBEY**

We must be eager and diligent in accomplishing God's tasks so that we may THEN enter his rest.

- ***By following the WORD**

The Bible is God's LIVING Word – today! It diagnoses our true motives, our true heart. We find rest in the Word of God and:

- ***By acknowledging God's OMNISCIENCE**

Do we understand that God knows EVERY single thing about our lives – our deeds and our thoughts? Can we then ACCEPT that God wants to give us rest, which is available to us:

- ***By accepting the grace & mercy of our High Priest – JESUS !**

The great news is found in the Good News, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Because we know OUR Priest is on the throne of grace, we can approach WITHOUT fear and receive our “rest won” which he lovingly provides his children.