

THE DANGER OF FAILING TO ENTER GOD'S REST 7 (Hebrews 4:12-13)

- Jesus Christ directly confronted such problems of self-righteousness, deception, and hypocrisy (Matthew 7:13-23):

3. **Warning #3: Do not fail to _____ the _____ God has provided and _____ by His _____ through _____ for you. (4:1-13)**
- a. **The *subject of this third warning* revolves around the concept of REST.**
 - b. **The *meaning of "rest"* involves involves...CESSATION OF WORK OR LABOR; FREEDOM FROM WORRIES OR ANXIETIES; SENSE OF CONFIDENCE, PEACE, AND INNER STABILITY INVOLVING DEPENDENCE UPON SOMEONE OR SOMETHING.**
 - c. **The *provider of this "rest"* is GOD. (4:1b)**
 - d. **The *warning is for us* to FEAR a failure to COME SHORT of ENTERING into God's rest. (4:1c)**
 - e. **The *ongoing promise and possibility of entering God's rest* REMAINS for you. (4:1a)**
 - f. **The *good news of God's rest* is a message He had and still wants PREACHED to believers in the PRESENT just as in the PAST. (4:2a)**
 - g. **The *means of entering God's rest* involves more than HEARING / KNOWING God's Word [as important as that is], but also BELIEVING God's PROMISES and PRINCIPLES. (4:2b; 5:12-14)**
 - h. **The *two past illustrations /opportunities to enter God's rest* involved CREATION and CANAAN. (4:3b-5)**
 - i. **The *present opportunity to enter God's rest* still REMAINS available to all believers TODAY, though it is only entered by SOME. (4:6-9)**
 - j. **The *necessities for entering God's rest* include God's GRACE and your FAITH in God's principles and promises, as it involves a willingness for you to CEASE FROM YOUR OWN WORKS as God did from His. (4:10)**
- What does faith-resting as a believer in Christ involve in this present dispensation?
- 1) **It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's past work via the Holy Spirit ____ you in providing _____ through your identification in Christ (Romans 6:1-14).**
 - How are you to respond to this?
 - 2) **It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's present work via the Holy Spirit ____ you in providing _____ and _____. (Romans 7:15-8:1-7; Gal.5:16; 2 Cor.3:17-18)**
 - How are you to respond in this?

3) It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's present work ____ you in _____, _____, and _____ . [1 Peter 5:7; Prov.3:5-6]

- How are you to respond to this?

4) It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's present work _____ you in _____ . [Col.1:27-29]

- What does this "rest" not mean?

k. The *exhortation regarding entering God's rest today* is, "Let us therefore _____ to enter that rest, lest _____ according to the same example of _____." (4:11)

- What does "be diligent" mean? What are we to be diligent about?
- What is the only other alternative?
- What are 2 responses and Christian virtues that believers are prone to play the hypocrite?

l. The *needed resource regarding entering God's rest daily* is the _____. (4:12)

- What does this title underscore?
- What 2 characteristics of the Word of God are highlighted here?
- What 2 abilities of the Word of God are emphasized in this verse?
- What 2 areas of your inner being can it discern or critique?
- Why is all this necessary for entering and enjoying the faith-rest life?

m. The *serious closing reminder regarding entering God's rest daily* is the recognition of the _____ eyes of God and our _____ to Him, along with the reality we _____ give an _____ to Him of our daily lives since the time of our salvation from sin's penalty. (4:13)

- What does this mean to you personally?
- How does all of this apply to you practically?