

OUT OF THIS WORLD

Entering Into Rest

Foundation Statement: *The victory is in the rest so labor to enter into rest-Hebrews 4:1, Isaiah 30:15*

I. Hebrews 4:1-What is this Rest?

- A. **Rest**-Resting place, Calming of the winds, to make quiet, to cause to be at rest, To still, to cause one striving to desist, to take rest, cease, lead to a quiet abode, to pause; after the toils of life on earth are ended
1. **This rest is quietness and it is peace**
 - a. Torment would be the opposite of rest and peace; To be tormented is being harassed, distressed, to be vexed with grievous pains in the mind and it also means to toil
 - b. The opposite of rest would be worrying, wondering, being frustrated, being discouraged, toiling to take care of it through self-effort and in that there is no rest and no peace
- B. Satan wants you in this state of restless because he knows your victory is in your rest; God wants you in the place of rest, the place of peace
1. *Isaiah 26:3-You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.*
 2. *John 16:33- These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*
 3. *Romans 8:6-For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*
 4. *Philippians 4:6-The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus*
 - a. Evidence that you don't have the care is peace is there (you have rest, quietness, calmness, undisturbed, not agitated, soul assured)
 5. *1 Peter 1:13-Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;*
 6. *1 Thessalonians 5:8-But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.*
 7. *1 Peter 5:8- Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.*
 - a. 1 Peter 5:7-8-Don't take the care (restless) and be calm and collected in spirit; when you have the care you are restless, you are disturbed, you are agitated

8. *1 Peter 3:4-But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet (tranquil) spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.*
9. *1 Peter 3:11-Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.*
10. *2 Thessalonians 3:16- Now may the Lord of peace Himself grant you His peace (the peace of His kingdom) at all times and in all ways [under all circumstances and conditions, whatever comes]. The Lord [be] with you all.*
11. *Colossians 3:15-And let the peace of God rule in your hearts,*
 - a. The peace of God rules in our hearts (Peace has the last say regarding all issues)

C. Restlessness is a sign that you have taken the care; Resting is a sign that you don't have the care

1. The resting place is the place where you have no care and you are fully persuaded that your father is going to take care of you (it) and therefore you rest
 - a. When you've taken the care and you're anxious and worrying you're not resting and you have no peace; Evidence that you don't have the care is that peace is there
2. In this place of rest you're not sweating, you're not toiling, you're resting, trusting the Father to do the work while you do what He shows you to do
 - a. The promised land was a place where God was going to TAKE CARE of them, defeat their enemies keep them safe and walking in abundance; he was working they were resting in Him, trusting Him to take care of them rather than toiling to take care of themselves

D. Jesus lived with a calm assurance (Mark 4:35, John 8,11, Luke 8)

1. The thing about Jesus was no matter how tough the situation got you never saw him sweat
2. **He never toiled frantically (because in every situation he trusted is Father to take care of Him)**
3. **He abode in this rest; he lived it and labored to stay in it**

II. The word of God presents this rest as a vital thing to the life and the victory of the believer

A. Hebrews 4:1-Is this rest available to us today? Is there a place available for us today where God takes care of us, where we don't toil to take of ourselves and live frantic, restless, agitated and disturbed lives?

1. The promise being left to us of entering into his rest
 - a. *ERV-We still have the promise that God gave those people*
 - b. *PHIL-The same promise of rest is offered to us today*
 - c. *CEV-The promise to enter into his place of rest is still good*
 - d. *TLB-The promise still stands*
2. 9-There is a rest available to us today
 - a. The people of God are saved already so this is not just talking about the rest of salvation; the people of God already have that
3. John 14:27-Jesus' peace is yours today and you can be cool and abide in rest the way He did

- a. I've given you my peace so don't be restless
 - 1) You have the equipment to live the life of rest
 - 2) **You have the command from Jesus to live the life of rest**
 - b. If you are agitated, anxious, stressed, perplexed then you are not resting
 - 1) **Troubled**-Agitated, inward commotion, Trouble a thing by the movement of it's parts to and fro, Take away calmness of mind, disquiet, make restless, stir up
 - c. **Are you at peace? Have you entered into this rest?**
- B. Rest is vital to your life and victory; About this rest the words says (1) Be careful, cautious and on guard that you don't miss out on it (2) Labor and exert yourself to enter into it (3) Jesus commanded you don't let your heart be restless; this rest must be vitally important
- 1. 1-Let's be very cautious that we don't miss out on this promise of rest
 - a. Look how the word talks about this rest: Be very careful that you don't miss out on this rest, be continually on guard that you don't miss it
 - 1) *ERV-we should be very careful that none of you fails to get that promise*
 - 2) *MSG-we need to be careful that we're not disqualified*
 - 3) *PHIL-let us be continually on our guard that none of us even looks like failing to attain it*
 - 4) *CEV-we must take care that none of you miss out*
 - b. **Are you being very cautious to not miss out on this rest and come short of it? You ought to be checking yourself all the time, "Am I resting or Am I missing out on this rest?"**
 - 1) Rest should be on your radar and you should be paying attention to whether or not you're resting
 - c. Are there believers that are missing out this rest that's available to them? Are there believers that are toiling and not resting and have no peace about situations in their life? Are there some who are praying loud prayers and quoting a lot of verses, but are NOT resting? It's possible to be a Christian and live a life with no rest? If you did you'd be missing it where God is concerned
 - 2. 11-Labor to enter into this **rest** (Exert yourself, endeavor, give diligence to entering this rest)
 - a. This rest is so important that God tells us to exert ourselves and give diligence to entering into it
 - b. This rest has just become the aim of every believer
- C. Your victory is in your rest, so labor to enter into this rest-Isaiah 30:15, Hebrews 4:11
- 1. **In Babylon you toil to obtain, in the kingdom you rest to receive**
 - a. You're not laboring to get it to come to pass, you're not laboring to get the thing you need that's Babylon; that's toil, that's works and rewards
 - b. A lot of times we are praying and quoting the word trying to obtain something, trying to get something to happen and that's toiling not resting

- c. We've thought that if we've prayed long enough and loud enough and quoted enough verses we would obtain what we didn't have and in doing so this rest hasn't been on our radar
- 2. You're laboring to enter into this place of rest
 - a. If my labor doesn't lead to rest then I labored in vain
 - 1) If I speak the word or pray it's to enter into that rest; The goal of labor is to rest
 - 2) I'm glad you made 1,000 confessions, but if those confessions don't lead to you resting then they were made in vain
 - b. You've done everything, but one thing that you need to do which is rest
 - c. The aim or the goal of the believer becomes the place of rest, **not** the manifestation; It has to become the aim of every believer to enter into this place of rest
- 3. **If we can get to this place of rest, God can get us to the place of victory-Isaiah 30:15**
 - a. Your victory is not in your wearisome effort, it's in your rest
 - b. If you don't rest, God doesn't work
- 4. **You don't have to pray to get it done, you have to rest to get it done**
 - a. Faith is not working to obtain something that you don't have; it's resting in what you already are and what you already have because of the finished work of Jesus
 - b. **The most powerful and productive thing you can do in any situation is enter into the place of rest**

III. To rest requires faith

- A. Hebrews 4:10-The person who is resting has ceased from his own working
 - 1. The person who is resting has quit doing his own stuff and is only doing what the Father showed him to do; therefore we know that Jesus lived a life of rest
 - a. They guy that's resting is not trying to make it happen and take care of it and figure it out and come up with plan and execute his plan; he's seeking the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and then doing what the Father shows him
 - b. If you're trying to make it happen, God can't make it happen
 - c. If you are working to obtain it, God can't give it to you (because he works by grace through faith, not by rewards through labor)
 - 2. All of this: I don't know what to do, maybe I'm not doing something right, I don't know what it's not working, why is it taking so long --- None of that is resting
 - a. The way to rest is to quit doing your own stuff and do only what the Father shows you
 - b. **The moment you engage activity not ordained by God you've left the place of rest and entered the place of toil**

3. Resting is not passively doing nothing; it's actively living by faith, doing what God told you to do, and trusting Him to take care of it and therefore you rest
 - a. People have been duped into thinking that if they are resting they are doing nothing and nothing will get done
- B. Hebrews 4:3-You enter into rest by faith-Hebrews 3:19-Unbelief kept them out of rest
1. Unbelief keeps you from resting while faith will enable you, empower you to rest
 - a. When you don't trust God to take care of something you won't be able to rest, but rather you'll toil to take care of yourself
 - b. This resting place is the place of confident trust, joyful expectation, it's the fully persuaded faith place; it's the place where you are so fully persuaded that God will take care of you that you rest
 - c. Numbers 13:30-14:4-They weren't resting; They are in unbelief, they are crying, they are mad at Moses, and they are going to take care of themselves by going back to Egypt
 - 1) **Why can't they rest? They have no faith and without faith you cannot rest**
 2. It takes assurance to rest (If you are unsure you won't rest)
 - a. Faith that is fully persuaded is faith that can rest
 - b. **It takes faith in God to rest; the stronger and bigger your faith is, the easier it is to rest**
 - 1) If you have troubled resting you get the word on it to get faith on it so you can rest-Romans 10:17
 - 2) To live by faith and believe God is a choice, the development of your faith is a process
- C. There is peace in believing, there is rest in believing-Romans 15:13
1. **If peace isn't present faith is not active**
 - a. **If you think you're in faith, but you have no peace, you think wrong**
 - b. **A great indicator of whether or not you're in faith is do you have any peace/rest**
 - c. **You can be jumping up and down on the inside and be cool on the outside**
 2. The peace is IN the believing, the rest is in the believing
 - a. If you don't believe you'll have no peace and you won't rest
 - b. You find peace and rest in faith
 3. One of the greatest evidences that you're in faith is that you have an abundance of peace
 - a. **Peace is faith expressing itself; Peace is an expression of faith; Peace is the outflow of confident trust**
 - b. If you have the care and you're frustrated and agitated and wondering you have no peace and you are not in faith

4. Psalm 3-When this is your attitude in a time of pressure it says more about you than some dry confession you're making out of your mouth; it takes faith to do this; it doesn't take faith to repeat something like a parrot