

# Rest for the Weary

Hebrews 4.1-4

August 25, 2019



## Introduction

The book of Hebrews demonstrates the superiority of Christ over all of creation

- Jesus is greater than the angels, Moses, and now Joshua

The author of Hebrews now reminds people that it's never too late to come to God, that God has made known what we need to do to obtain the rest of God, and the full nature of what the rest of God is

## Main Points

### 1. God's rest is attainable

- The promise still stands
- "The NIV's **let us be careful** may be better translated, "let us fear." The writer of Hebrews feared his readers would live in disobedience, and he wanted to awaken them to repentance. What caused his concern? Most of the wilderness generation died before reaching the Promised Land. Their death did not nullify the promise of God's rest. The children of this generation later entered the land. This entrance did not completely fulfill the promise of rest.

The writer of Hebrews feared that his readers might stumble and falter just as those who left Egypt. They needed to be aware of the previous failure so that they might not make the same mistake.”<sup>1</sup>

## 2. God’s rest is available

- God has always been forthright about telling people how to attain His rest
- It was never through a rigorous adherence to the Law that was going to get them into the promised land, it was faith and obedience. That is the same message today

## 3. God’s rest is immediate

- This is about more than Heaven. It’s now. The verb “enter” is in the present tense
- When God rested = completion not inactivity; Jesus: it is finished
- “What believers can now enter is none other than the same kind of rest which the Creator enjoyed when he had completed his works, which means that the rest idea is of completion and not of inactivity”<sup>2</sup>

## Conclusion:

Jesus said, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. - the fulfillment of many OT texts

- Exodus 33.14 -- The Lord replied, “My Presence<sup>(A)</sup> will go with you, and I will give you rest.”
- [Dt 12:9, 10; 25:19; Jos 1:13; 11:23; 21:44; 22:4; 23:1; 1Ki 8:56; Isa 63:14; Jer 31:2](#)

We can experience peace/rest/completion because...

- The promise still stands
- God still speaks
- Salvation is more than a future hope; it’s a present reality

---

<sup>1</sup> Lea, T. D. (1999). *Hebrews, James* (Vol. 10, pp. 66–67). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

<sup>2</sup> Guthrie, D. (1983). *Hebrews: An Introduction and Commentary* (Vol. 15, p. 116). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.