

## **FEAR & THE FAITH-REST LIFE** **(Hebrews 3:7-4:1)**

**A. The BACKGROUND to HEBREWS You Need to Know.**

**B. The WARNINGS and EXHORTATIONS You Need to Heed. (2:1-4, 3:7-19)**

**C. The EXHORTATION for You to ENTER & ENJOY the FAITH-REST LIFE TODAY. (4)**

1. The *subject* of this chapter revolves around the FAITH-REST LIFE. {3:11,18, 4:1,3 [2x], 5, 8, 9, 10, 11)
2. The *meaning* of “rest” involves ... CESSATION of work or labor; freedom from worries or anxieties; sense of confidence, peace, and inner stability involving DEPENDENCE upon someone or something. What is this ‘rest’ referring to in this context?
3. The *provider* of this “rest” is GOD. (4:1; 3:11, 18, 4:3, 5, 10)
4. The *available promise* of entering God’s rest REMAINS for you. (4:1b)
5. The *warning* is for us to FEAR (be deeply concerned - about what?) a failure to \_\_\_\_\_ of daily \_\_\_\_\_ into God’s rest. (4:1c, 3, 5, 10)

\*\*\*\*\* 7 FACTS about FEAR \*\*\*\*\*

1. There is a \_\_\_\_\_ kind of fear. (Matt. 14:25-33)
2. The meaning of the Greek word for “fear” (phobia / phobeo), is determined by its \_\_\_\_\_, and can be used to refer to:
  - a. A \_\_\_\_\_ fear of coming danger or harm. (Luke 21:26; Rev. 11:13)
  - b. A \_\_\_\_\_ in God. (“the fear of the Lord” – Prov. 1:7; Rom. 3:18)
  - c. A \_\_\_\_\_ towards human \_\_\_\_\_. (Rom. 13:4, 7)
  - d. A \_\_\_\_\_ for someone’s direction or well-being. (Heb. 4:1; 2 Cor.11:3; 2 Cor. 12:20)
  - e. A \_\_\_\_\_ due to mis-focus and unbelief. (Matt. 14:26-31)
3. Fear in the human race began in the Garden of Eden due to man’s \_\_\_\_\_. (Genesis 3:10)
4. The keys to overcoming your fears revolve around your...
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ - who or what is your object of faith such as the goodness, love, faithfulness, and promises of God.
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ - your decisions to trust In the right object of faith, i.e. the Lord.

5. Some of the great and precious promises of God addressing our fears are:

6. While unbelievers live in fear and the bondage of DEATH which is only relieved through being saved (Heb. 2:14-15), believers should “fear” (be seriously concerned about) such things as:

- a. A \_\_\_\_\_ to daily enter & enjoy the faith-rest life. (Heb.4:1-2)
- b. Taking seriously \_\_\_\_\_ in a believer’s life. (1 Tim. 5:20; 2 Cor.7:1; Phil.2:12-13; Eph.5:21; 1 Pet. 1:17)
- c. Succumbing to \_\_\_\_\_ through false teaching including moving from the simplicity of the Gospel. (2 Cor.11:3-4)
- d. Moving away from grace teaching to \_\_\_\_\_. (Gal. 4:11)

7. A believer in Christ is NOT to FEAR:

- a. The disapproval of \_\_\_\_\_ when doing what is right. (Prov.29:25; Jn. 12:42-43)
- b. The threats of the \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 10:28-31)
- c. The criticisms of \_\_\_\_\_. (Gal. 2:12)
- d. The removal of \_\_\_\_\_. (1 John 4:18)
- e. The loss of \_\_\_\_\_. (Romans 8:15, 38-39)
- f. Death – regardless of its \_\_\_\_\_. (Heb. 2:15)
- g. Coming \_\_\_\_\_. (Rev.2:10)

The faith-rest life is fully provided by God’s grace for every believer and is still available for you today regardless of past failures in your Christian life. It is a spiritual condition of perfect peace and inner stability that is entered and enjoyed through a daily walk of dependence and fellowship with Jesus Christ based upon the principles, promises, and power of God. It is designed by God to be the normal Christian life, but like the Exodus generation of Hebrews 3, it doesn’t appear to be the average Christian’s life though it is available to all believers moment by moment and day by day. Hebrews 4:1 urges believers to be of deep concern that they and other not fail to enter the faith-rest life, especially when facing trials and pressure to compromise their faithfulness to the Lord.

What is the implication of verse 1 regarding believers in Christ? It is \_\_\_\_\_ that a believer in Christ who has entered into salvation rest through faith alone in Christ alone [peace with God] may \_\_\_\_\_ to enter into sanctification/submission rest in their daily walk [the peace of God], and thus, not be \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord. In fact, this possibility was \_\_\_\_\_ for these Hebrew Christians in light of their present pressure and persecution.

- How does apply to you today?