

THE *MEANS* OF ENTERING THE FAITH-REST LIFE **(Hebrews 4:1-2)**

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.
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 every believer. (4:1b)
5. The *warning* is for us to FEAR (be deeply concerned - about what?) a failure to COME SHORT of daily ENTERING into God’s rest. (4:1c, 3, 5, 10)
6. The *definition* of the “rest” clarified:
7. The *good news* of the faith-rest life is a _____ principle and offer which was preached in the present to 1st century believers as well as was preached to the past Exodus generation that failed to enter the promised land due to unbelief. (4:2a)
 - Consider the importance of faith in Hebrews 11 and its trans- dispensational nature:
 - What ‘gospel’ must you discern and “rightly divide” when it comes to each context?
 - a) There is the gospel (good news) of the _____. (Matt. 3:1; 4:17, 9:35)
 - b) There is the gospel (good news) of the _____ (Acts 20:24) which also is called the Gospel of Christ (Romans 1:16) which proclaims that _____ (eternal deity who became sinless humanity) _____ and _____ (1 Cor. 15:1-4) to provide eternal salvation as a free gift (Rom. 3:24) by God’s grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone apart from works, law, and ritual (Romans 3:28, 4:1-12; Eph. 2:8-9; 2 Tim. 1:8-10). This is the message that believers are to proclaim today (Mark 16:15; Rom. 1:16) and when believed by the lost, places them by the Holy Spirit into union with Jesus Christ (John 14:16-20, 15:2, 17:20-24; Gal. 3:26-28) and the Body of Christ - the Church (1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:3, 2:8-22, 3:1-10).
 - c) There is the gospel of God’s _____ for believers (Heb. 4) which God has provided for all believers regarding their daily walk which is entered and enjoyed by _____ in resting upon God’s person, provisions, principles, and promises. (Isaiah 26:3-4)

8. **The means of entering God's rest involves more than _____ God's Word** [as important as that is], **but also learning to daily _____ in God's _____,** _____, _____, and _____. **(4:2b; Galatians 2:20)**
 The equation for faith-rest: _____ God's promises plus _____ God's promises = faith-rest. **God's promises to faith-rest in regarding ...**

- **Eternal life:** *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* (John 3:16) **Salvation:** *So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved."* (Acts 16:31) **Forgiveness of sins:** *"To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins."* (Acts 10:43) **Acceptance in Christ** (Ephesians 1:6-7)
- **Death for the Believer** (Psalm 31:15; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:21,23; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)
- **God's eternal security:** *And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. I and My Father are one."* (John 10:28-30)
- **God's unconditional love:** *For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.* (Rom 8:38-39)
- **God's constant care for you:** *casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.* (1Pet. 5:7)
- **God's daily faithfulness & comfort to you.** (Lam. 3:23-24; 2 Cor. 1:3-4)
- **God's promise of victory over sin:** *I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.* (Gal. 5:16)
- **God's purposes in your trials:** *In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,* (1 Pet. 1:6-7)
- **When you feel alone:** *Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."* 6 So we may boldly say: *"The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"*
- **When you need divine direction:** *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.* (Prov. 3:5-6)
- **When you are afraid:** *Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'* 13 *For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, Saying to you, 'Fear not, I will help you.'* (Isa. 41:11,13)
- **When you are anxious:** *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.* (Phil. 4:6-7)
- **When you are discouraged:** *I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!* (Psalm 27:13-14)
- **When you have sinned:** *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* (1John 1:9)
- **When you sense your inadequacy:** *Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God.* (2Cor. 3:5)