

There Is Rest In Work

Scripture:	
Announcements:	
Scripture Reading:	
RECAP:	<p>So last week we talked about God’s rest.</p> <p>—We saw that if you want to enter into God’s rest then you have to believe.</p> <p>— —We saw the Israelites who wander in the desert were not able to enter God’s rest because they did not believe.</p> <p>— — —We looked at what God’s rest was and this was a bit more complicated then how to enter.</p> <p>— — — —God’s rest for those who believe is that in the next life God promises us we will live in the fullness of His rest.</p> <p>— — — — —God’s rest for believers is also living in the promises of God.</p> <p>— — — — — —Lastly, for the believer entering God’s rest means abandoning our work and doing His work. Our lives become about Him and His work and not about us and our work.</p>
INTRODUCTION:	<p>Arthur W. Pink sums up what we have looked at in chapter 4 and where we are going today really well by writing, “A ‘promise is left’ of entering into God’s rest (verse 1). That promise must be appropriated, ‘mixed with faith’ in those who heart it (verse 2). Only believers will enter that rest, for God hath sworn that unbelievers shall not enter therein (verse 3). Although there is a rest of God mentioned in Genesis 2 (verse 2,3), and although Joshua led Israel into the rest of Canaan (verse 8), yet neither of these ‘rests’ was what is promised Christians (verse 8). Hence, we can only conclude there is another ‘rest’ for God’s people (verse 9). That Christian’s perfect ‘rest’ is yet future is clear from the language of verse 11.”</p> <p>—We will see what the product of our work is when we don’t enter God’s rest or when we do enter God’s rest.</p>
Passage Begins	

Scripture:	
<p>Hebrews 4:6–10 (NASB95): 6 Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience,</p> <p>7 He again fixes a certain day, “Today,” saying through David after so long a time just as has been said before,</p> <p>“Today if you hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.”</p> <p>8 For if Joshua had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that.</p> <p>9 So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.</p> <p>10 For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His.</p>	<p>This word remains once again affirms that God is still allowing people to enter His rest. This is not a closed issue but open and active.</p> <p>—His time frame for those to enter into the rest of God is as we have seen before, “today.”</p> <p>— —“Today” we can enter into rest in God as David wrote in Psalm 95 which this is a quote from.</p> <p>— — —<u>READ: Psalm 95:6–8 (NASB95):</u> 6 Come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. 7 For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand. Today, if you would hear His voice, 8 Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, As in the day of Massah in the wilderness,</p> <p>— — — —What I found interesting about this is that David wrote to his people about this moment in the wilderness.</p> <p>— — — —David was not alive for the wilderness wandering but David uses that as an example for his people to not harden their hearts and to listen to word of God.</p> <p>— — — — —So, just as David used this example for his people the author of Hebrews used it for his audience and that now includes us.</p>
	<p>What this tells me is this is a temptation that believers are constantly going against in our relationship with God.</p> <p>—We see this message span the whole of the biblical history.</p> <p>— —So, once again “today” we need to be faithful to God.</p> <p>— — —We do not need to wait until tomorrow, or Monday, or next month; we need to start our total commitment to God today as long as it is today.</p> <p>— — — —We are not promised tomorrow but while we have today we should live in faith and obedience to almighty God of the universe.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>So, what does faithfulness today look like in our lives? How do we practically do that in my day?</p> <p>—READ: James 2:14–18 (NASB95): 14 What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? 17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself. 18 But someone may well say, “You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”</p> <p>— — Now the question is, well how do I do works without become like the Pharisees?</p> <p>— — — It comes back to our work vs. God’s work.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>The Pharisees were about their work and they even claimed their work was God’s work but it was not.</p> <p>— See our works (before Christ/apart from Christ) are works of the flesh.</p> <p>— — What are the works of the flesh?</p> <p>— — — Well, Paul gives us a list of some of them but not all of them: READ: Galatians 5:19–21 (NASB95): 19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.</p> <p>— — — He gives us another list: READ: Romans 1:28–32 (NASB95): 28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; 32 and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.</p> <p>— — — — So summing up this list, works or deeds of the flesh are things that humanity does that are not what God has called us to be, do, and live.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>The works or deeds of the flesh although they may be noble, they are about ourself.</p> <p>— Ultimately those who are in the flesh and live according to the flesh can not please God: <u>READ: Romans 8:8 (NASB95): 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.</u></p> <p>— — Those that live according the flesh, their works are according to the flesh, and they continue in their work instead of dropping their work and doing God’s work will: <u>READ: Galatians 5:21 (NASB95): will not inherit the kingdom of God; and READ: Romans 1:32 (NASB95): that those who practice such things are worthy of death.</u></p> <p>— — — Humanity’s work apart from Christ leads to death and not just a one time death but an eternal perpetual death.</p> <p>— — — — Christians, when we set down God’s work to do ours we are producing nothing good but getting further from life and light into darkness and death.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>The other side of that is what the author of Hebrews is calling us to do.</p> <p>—When we believe in God and drop our fleshly work and pick up doing His work there is life and there is rest.</p> <p>— —What is the work of God that will show up in our lives if we are doing His work?</p> <p>— — —Well, we will walk by the Spirit: READ: Galatians 5:16 (NASB95): 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.</p> <p>— — — —The Spirit will produce works like this through us: READ: Galatians 5:22–25 (NASB95): 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.</p> <p>— — — — —Living for God and through God by the Spirit of God produces life, light, and rest. We should rest from our work and enter the God’s rest through Jesus Christ. Albert Mohler wrote, “We no longer have to live our lives trying to ‘prove’ our righteousness before God. Instead, we ‘rest’ from that labor because Christ has already proved that righteousness on our behalf.”</p> <p>— — — — — —READ: Matthew 7:20 (NASB95): 20 “So then, you will know them by their fruits.</p>
<p>Hebrews 4:6–10 (NASB95): 6 Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience,</p> <p>7 He again fixes a certain day, “Today,” saying through David after so long a time just as has been said before,</p> <p>“Today if you hear His voice,</p> <p>Do not harden your hearts.”</p> <p>8 For if Joshua had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that.</p> <p>9 So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.</p> <p>10 For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His.</p>	<p>It was Joshua who lead the Israelites into the promise land; Joshua was faithful and set aside his work to do God’s work.</p> <p>—But Joshua only lead Israel into a temporary rest in the promise land.</p> <p>— —Albert Mohler wrote, “Joshua led Israel into the land, but Jesus leads his people into God’s true eschatological (final end of all things) rest.”</p> <p>— — —Our rest here will not be perfect because we are not perfected yet.</p> <p>— — — —But one day, our rest will be perfect because God will remake us perfect.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>So for our practical application I am going to use verse 10. We need to look at how encouraging verse 10 is.</p> <p>— It is the gospel message but not as easy as John 3:16 to immediately see.</p> <p>— — If we enter His rest we have faith in Him and believe.</p> <p>— — — We put our work down forsaking our work and live in his freeing life-giving work. We believe in, trust, and hope in His promises.</p> <p>— — — — When we do those things we will enter His rest with Him for all eternity.</p> <p>— — — — — <u>READ: John 3:16 (NASB95): 16 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.</u></p>
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