



HEBREWS CHAPTER 4 REVIEW

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4:1-13 MAIN POINT: The main point is to warn against failing to enter God's promised rest through unbelief and disobedience, just as the Israelites failed despite hearing the good news. True rest is not just physical, but an eternal spiritual rest found by resting from our own works and believing in Christ.

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1. Note the various verses and reasons listed as to why the people were prevented from entering the rest:

- The various verses and reasons listed for why the people were prevented from entering the rest:
 - Verse 2: They did not combine the message with faith
 - Verse 6: They failed to enter because of disobedience
 - Verse 11: They fell by following the same example of disobedience

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2. What was the promised rest? Carefully look at verse 8 in considering your answer.

- **The promised rest, carefully considering verse 8, was not just the physical Promised Land that Joshua led them into.**
- **It points to something greater - an eternal, spiritual rest that even David spoke of long after entering Canaan.**

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3. Explain the meaning of verse 10. What application should we make from this verse?

- **Verse 10 means that entering God's rest is resting from our own works, just as God rested from His works of creation.**
- **The application is to cease striving for salvation by our own efforts and instead rest in the finished work of Christ.**

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4. How does verses 12-13 connect with the thoughts of v.11?

- Verses 12-13 connect with verse 11 by showing how we can strive to enter that rest - through the living and active word of God that exposes and judges the thoughts and intentions of our hearts.

5. According to verses 12-13, what especially about our lives is of concern to God?

- What is especially of concern to God are the thoughts, intentions, and motives of our hearts. His word lays these bare before Him.

TRANSFORMATION

What do you learn about God from this chapter? How does this change the way you see God and how does this change your life? How does this encourage us to stand in the faith?

- **This chapter reveals God as the one who offers true, eternal rest to those who believe, not based on their works but by His grace through faith in Christ.**
- **It encourages standing firm in the faith by resting in Christ's finished work rather than our own efforts.**
- **It portrays God as compassionate, wanting us to find mercy and help in our times of need by coming to His throne of grace confidently through our great high priest, Jesus.**

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4:14-16 MAIN POINT: The main point is that because we have Jesus as our great, sympathetic High Priest who can relate to our weaknesses, we can confidently approach God's throne to receive mercy and find grace to help in our time of need.

6. According to this passage, what makes our High Priest better than the Levitical priesthood?

- The main thing that makes our High Priest better is that He can sympathize with our weaknesses because He was tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin.

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7. What hope and confidence can we receive from this passage?

- **The hope and confidence we can receive is that because we have this great, sympathetic High Priest, we can draw near to God's throne with boldness, not fear, expecting to receive mercy and find grace to help in our time of need.**

Question: Did the Israelites who had unbelieving hearts and died in the wilderness go to heaven?

The Bible does not explicitly state their eternal destiny.

Insights from Scriptures:

- **Hebrews 3:16-19**: Israelites provoked God with unbelief and disobedience, leading to their inability to enter the Promised Land.
- **Numbers 14:26-35**: God's judgment led to their death in the wilderness.
- **Salvation**: Always by faith (Hebrews 11:6, Romans 4:3).
- **Genuine Faith**: Produces obedience (James 2:14-26). The Israelites demonstrated persistent unbelief and disobedience.
- **Judgment**: Only God judges the condition of each heart (1 Sam. 16:7).

Question: Could the unbelieving Israelites who died in the wilderness have repented and been saved?

The Bible does not explicitly state their opportunity for repentance and salvation.

- **God's Mercy:** Desires all people to repent (*2 Peter 3:9, Ezekiel 18:23*)
- **Instances of Pardon:** God pardoned the Israelites when they confessed their sin (*Numbers 14:13-20, Numbers 21:4-9*).
- **Point of No Return:** Unbelief and rebellion can become hardened (*Hebrews 3:12-13, Numbers 14:22-23*).
- **Repentance Requirements:** Acknowledge sin, turning from sin, and put faith in God (*Numbers 14:40, Psalm 51:17, Deuteronomy 30:1-3*).
- **Genuine Repentance:** Leads to obedience to God's commands (*1 Sam. 15:22-23*).