

What's the point? Because God wants us to be saved, we can be saved, and only by a lack of faith, trust and an indifference to what God has done for us in Christ to save us can stop God's work in us.

It is what the author calls in verse 6 & 11- "*disobedience.*"

So if God prepared a place of rest, and those who were given the good news didn't enter because they chose disobedience over faith... Verse 6

So let us move forward to enter this rest, *so that none of us fall into the kind of faithless disobedience that prevented them from entering.* Verse 11

The warning is to move forward in trusting Christ.

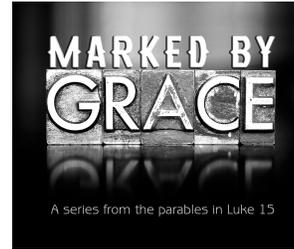
Confessing Christ

Apostle Paul: "This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief." I Timothy 1:15;

I'm too much of a sinner to deserve salvation but I'm not too much of a sinner for the grace of God to handle my sin. **John MacArthur**

Jesus says, "I've come for the sick people who know they're sinners not the ones who think they're pious".

Notes:



Dan Wilvers- March 12th, 2017 Part 3

Unbelief Forfeits God's Rest *Hebrews 3:16-19; 4:1-13*

Now who, *exactly, was God talking to then?* Who heard and rebelled? Wasn't it all of those whom Moses led out of Egypt? 17 And who made God angry for an entire generation? Wasn't it those who sinned *against Him*, those whose bodies are still buried in the wilderness, *the site of that uprising?* 18 It was those disobedient ones who God swore would never enter into salvation's rest. 19 And we can see that they couldn't enter because they did not believe. **Chapter 4** That's why, as long as that promise of entering God's rest remains open to us, we should be careful that none of us seem to fall short ourselves. 2 Those people in the wilderness heard *God's* good news, just as we have heard it, but the message they heard didn't do them any good since it wasn't combined with faith. 3 We who believe are entering into salvation's rest, as He said, That is why I swore in anger they would never enter *salvation's* rest, even though God's works were finished from the very creation of the world. 4 (For didn't God say that on the seventh day *of creation* He rested from all His works? 5 And doesn't God say in the psalm that they would never enter into *salvation's* rest? 6 *So if God prepared a place of rest, and those who were given the good news didn't enter because they chose disobedience over faith,* then it remains open for us to enter. 7 Once again, God has fixed a day; and that day is "today," as David said so much later when he wrote *in the psalm* quoted earlier: Today, if you listen to His voice, Don't harden your hearts. 8 Now if Joshua had been able to lead those who followed him into God's rest, would God then have spoken this way? 9 There still remains a place of rest, a true Sabbath, for the people of God 10 because those who enter into salvation's rest lay down their labors in the same way that God entered into a Sabbath rest from His. 11 So let us move forward to enter this rest, so that none of us fall into the kind of faithless disobedience that prevented them from entering. 12 The word of God, *you see*, is alive and moving; sharper than a double-edged sword; piercing the divide between soul and spirit, joints and marrow; able to judge the thoughts and will of the heart. 13 No creature can hide from God: God sees all. Everyone and everything is exposed, opened for His inspection; and He's the One we will have to explain ourselves to. *This is God's Word*

And why should we care about what the author is saying to us?

12 The word of God, *you see*, is alive and moving; sharper than a double-edged sword; piercing the divide between soul and spirit, joints and marrow; able to judge the thoughts and will of the heart. 13 No creature can hide from God: God sees all. Everyone and everything is exposed, opened for His inspection; and He's the One we will have to explain ourselves to. Hebrews 4:12,13

Translation? Don't trifle with God.

Today is the day of salvation; not tomorrow.

Once again, God has fixed a day; and that day is "today," as David said so much later when he wrote *in the Psalm 95*: Today, if you listen to His voice, Don't harden your hearts. Hebrews 4:7

How do I know if the author's warning is applicable me?

What did Jesus say? "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

We who believe are entering into salvation's rest,... Hebrews 4:3

So if God prepared a place of rest, and those who were given the good news didn't enter because they chose disobedience over faith, then it remains open for us to enter. Hebrews 4:6

We are saved by two things:

1. The eternal will of God expressed in His sending His Son to save all mankind;

2. Our will expressed in our trust in Jesus to save us.

But there is a solemn warning in verse 6-

(They) didn't enter because they chose disobedience *over faith*

What's he saying here? Though they have heard all about Jesus dying for their sins, they chose to live for themselves.

Jesus says: "You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. Matthew 7:13

Here is the key to our faith and trust in Christ:

We stop trying to earn God's favor

There still remains a place of rest, a true Sabbath, for the people of God 10 because those who enter into salvation's rest *lay down their labors* in the same way that God entered into a Sabbath rest from His. Hebrews 4:9,10

Dallas Willard once said: *The Grace of God is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning. Earning is an attitude. Effort is an action.*

The Apostle Paul nails this concept in his letter to the Church at Ephesus Chapter 2:

God saved you by his grace when you believed. *And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. 9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. 10 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.* Ephesians 2:8-10

Three ways to treat God:

1. A grateful heart that desires to repent and will repent.
2. A dutiful heart that believes it can earn, by its actions, a place at the table.
3. An indifferent heart towards the things of God.

The casual mindset that I am either good enough or good as any other, or I've done my fair share of religious things; neither of these attitudes will get you the eternal rest of God.

If you're burdened with the idea of "Am I doing enough?"

"We want to perform God's works, too. What should we do?" 29 Jesus told them, "This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one he has sent." John 6:28-29