

Hebrews 4 Outline

1A The Basis for the Exhortation, 1a: Therefore, since a promise remains to enter into His rest,
2A The Exhortation to Fear the Lord and Enter His Rest, 1b: let us fear lest any of you seem to fail.

1B Illustration: The Failure of the Israelites to Enter the Rest of God, vv.2-5:

1C The Comparison between the Israelites and the Readers, 2a: For we have indeed been given good news, just like them;

2C The Reason for the Failure of the Israelites, 2b: but the word of hearing did not profit them, since it was not blended with faith in those who heard.

3C Explanation and Application: Belief is the Key to Entrance, 3a: For those of us who believed enter into the rest,

1D Supporting Scripture: 3b: just as it has been spoken, "As I swore in My wrath, They will never enter into My rest."

1E Illumination: Unbelief in the Face of the Works of God, 3c: And yet the works were established from the foundation of the world.

1F First Support for the Illumination, 4: For it has been said somewhere concerning the seventh, "And God rested on the seventh day from all of His works."

2F Second Support for the Illumination, 5: And again in this place, "You will not enter into My rest."

2B The Present Opportunity, vv.6-11:

1C The Opening, 6a: Therefore since it remains for someone to enter into it,

2C The Failure of The Original Grantees, 6b: and those who first were given good news did not enter because of disobedience,

3C The New Opportunity, 7: again for some He appointed a day, in David saying, "Today, after a certain time, Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your heart."

4C Past Failure as the Basis for a New Opportunity, 8: For if Joshua had rested them, he would not have spoken after these things of another day.

5C The Remaining Rest, 9: Therefore there remains a Sabbath-rest for the people of God.

6C The Result of the Rest, 10: For the one who entered into His rest also himself rested from his works, as God from His own.

7C The Exhortation to Take Advantage of the Opportunity, 11: Therefore let us endeavor to enter into that rest, lest anyone fall in that same example of disobedience.

3A The Grace of God toward Entering the Rest of God, vv.12-16:

1B The Power and Presence of the Lord, vv.12-13:

1C The Power of the Lord, 12: For the Word of God is living and effective, and sharper than every two-edged sword, and piercing unto the division of soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and is the critic of the considerations and notions of the heart.

2C The Presence of the Lord, 13: And there is no creature invisible before His face; now all are naked and have been pinned before His eyes, to Whom is our account.

2B The Effectiveness of the High Priest, vv.14-15:

1C Possession of the High Priest as Motivation to Hold Fast the Confession, 14:

Therefore having a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession.

2C Sympathy and Perfection of the High Priest, 15: For we do not have a High Priest not able to sympathize with our weaknesses, but having been tested according to all things in like pattern, [He was] without sin.

3B Final Conclusion: Go Before the Throne of Grace with Confidence, 16: Therefore let us go before the throne of grace with confidence, in order that we might receive mercy, and find grace to help at the right time.