

SERMON OUTLINE

THE LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

'Jesus: Simply the Best' - 6

Hebrews 4 v1 - 13

Key Word - "rest" used 11 times in the passage.

Title - 'Rest for the Restless'

'Thou movest us to delight in praising Thee; for Thou hast formed us for Thyself, and our hearts are restless till they find rest in Thee'

Augustine

Key Question - What is this 'rest' of God?

1. GOD'S REST IN THE 'REST' OF THE LAND OF CANAAN

This 'rest' was a particular place (literally / historically) - Canaan. See - 3 v11, v18 & 4 v3a. Note - Canaan was anything but a place of rest, but it was where the people were meant to be, and that was rest for them. They were - 'in the place of God's design'.

Application - Are we in the place where God wants us to be? If we are - that will be rest (peace) to us.

2. GOD'S REST IN THE 'REST' OF THE LORD'S DAY

See - v3 - 4, Gen 2 v2 - 3 & Ex 20 v8 - 11

3. GOD'S REST IN THE 'REST' OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS

See - v8 & Matt 11 v28 - 30. The call of Jesus in the gospel is to stop working and start resting - trusting in all the Jesus has done by virtue of His life, and death and resurrection. See - Rom 5 v1 (and here) - v9 - 10. There is a Sabbath-rest in the gospel in that just as by virtue of all that God has done in creation we are to rest physically - so by virtue of all that God has done in the new creation (in the salvation accomplished by Jesus) we are to rest spiritually.

4. GOD'S REST IN THE 'REST' OF HEAVEN

See - Rev 14 v13

Application - it's 2-fold:-

A. LET US BE CAREFUL

See - v1 - 3 & v6. It's not enough that we have believed (that we've made a profession) - are we truly trusting in Jesus, and trusting today?

B. LET US BE DILIGENT

See - v11. Do we take God's word seriously - not only believing it and trusting it, but obeying (practicing) it. See - v12 - 13 & Lk 15 v46 - 49