

God's Powerful Word

January 8, 2023
Hebrews 4:11-13

Pastor Mark Turner
Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Intro:

- Theme of Hebrews: Jesus is Better!
- We are exhorted to REST in Jesus¹¹ and stop trying to save self!

Israel, an Example for Us

- Warned of cultural belief rather than trust in God
- Israel - Psalm 95 example in Heb 3
- They didn't trust or obey God, they failed to enter His rest¹¹

Principle to be shown:

- Because God's Word is powerful and living and exposes our sin and God Himself sees everything, we must be diligent to let His Word work in our hearts & lives, we must rest in faith in Jesus.
- Our passage is bookended by *logos*, word¹², account¹³
- Word¹² is God's Word which we are to hear & believe

The Living Word¹²

- Word endures forever^{Is40:8; Psa119:89}
- Word imparts new life to sinners^{Jms1:18; 1Pet1:23}
- Word is effective & brings life^{Isa55:1; Jn20:31}
- Word was the heart of the Reformation

The Penetrating Word¹²

- Sharp & penetrating
- Like surgeon cutting out cancer – for healing

The Discerning Word¹²

- God's Word judges & discerns our heart
- Why many fear it – it reveals our inner core
- Paul^{Rom7:21-24} was undone by judging Word^{Rm3:23}
- Our hope^{Rom7:25} - Jesus Christ who delivers us!

A Reckoning Word¹³

- *logos* used differently now - we must give a (word) account after receiving God's Word
- We are naked & exposed before God - 'neck laid back'
- We can't bluff God, He will require an accounting!
- CONTEXT: *let us strive to enter that rest¹¹* Gospel Hope!
- Faith in Jesus gives us a REST from our attempts^{Heb4:9-10}
- Example of Israel who didn't rest in faith in God's Word
- Receive God's Word: believe Gospel message^{Heb4:2}; God's Word came by the Son^{Heb1:2}; Son made purification for our sins^{Heb1:3}; we have been warned by God's Word^{Heb2:3}; Jesus is our rest^{Heb2:10} and Savior! Embrace the Gospel of Jesus by faith and enter His rest^{Heb4:16}.
- REST IN THE GLORIOUS GOSPEL OF JESUS BY FAITH!

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