

Faith/Obedience

An Everlasting Covenant

Psalm 95 (NKJV)

- ¹ Oh come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.
 - ² Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.
 - ³ For the Lord is the great God, And the great King above all gods.
 - ⁴ In His hand are the deep places of the earth; The heights of the hills are His also.
 - ⁵ The sea is His, for He made it; And His hands formed the dry land.
 - ⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.
 - ⁷ For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His hand.
- Today, if you will hear His voice:

God was leading them to water

- ⁸ “Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion, As in the day of trial in the wilderness,
- ⁹ When your fathers tested Me; They tried Me, though they saw My work.
- ¹⁰ For **forty years** I was grieved with that generation, And said, ‘It is a people who go astray in their hearts, And they do not know My ways.’
- ¹¹ So I swore in My wrath, “They shall not enter **My rest.**’ ”

so it wasn't just that they didn't go in and possess the land when God told them to, but every instance when they didn't believe

Moses didn't enter the promised land/Canaan, Aaron didn't enter into the possession, the generation of adults that came out of Egypt died in the wilderness because of unbelief

they weren't partakers **God's rest** because of unbelief

Exodus 17:1-7 (NKJV)

- ¹ Then all the congregation of the children of Israel set out on their journey from the Wilderness of Sin, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped in Rephidim; but there was no water for the people to drink.
- ² Therefore the people contended with Moses, and said, “Give us water, that we may drink.” So Moses said to them, “Why do you contend with me? Why do you tempt the Lord?”
- ³ And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said, “Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?”
- ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, saying, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!”
- ⁵ And the Lord said to Moses, “Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go.
- ⁶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink.” And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.
- ⁷ So he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the contention of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

- Genesis 17:7-8 (NKJV)

- ⁷ And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an **everlasting covenant**, to be God to you and your descendants after you.

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- 8 Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an **everlasting possession**; and I will be their God.”
- Genesis 14:18–20 (NKJV)
- 18 Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. 19 And he blessed him and said: “Blessed be Abram of God Most High, **Possessor of heaven and earth**; 20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.” And he gave him a tithe of all.
- Hebrews 3:1–2 (NKJV)
- 1 Therefore, holy brethren, **partakers of the heavenly calling**, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, 2 who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house.
- Hebrews 3:6 but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.
- Hebrews 3:7–14 (NKJV)
- 7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: “Today, if you will hear His voice, 8 Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, 9 Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. 10 Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways.’ 11 So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter **My rest**.’ ” 12 **Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God**; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,
- the warning is to continue on in the new covenant/faith/obedience
- Beware **an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; going back to the old covenant/law**
- Hebrews 4:1–10 (NKJV)
- 1 Therefore, since a promise remains of entering **His rest**, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. 2 For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. 3 **For we who have believed do enter that rest**, as He has said: “So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest,’ ” although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. 4 For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all His works”; 5 and again in this place: “They shall not enter My rest.” 6 Since therefore it remains that some must enter it, and those to whom it was first preached did not enter because of disobedience, 7 **again He designates a certain day, saying in David**, “Today,” after such a long time, as it has been said: “Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.” 8 **For if Joshua had given them rest**, then ^{He} would not afterward have spoken of another day. 9 There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. 10. **For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.**
- **we can’t walk in faith and in accordance with our own mind**
- **rest is the state believers enjoy when walking in obedience to right teaching (Jew or Gentile)**
- Psalm 95:7–11 (NKJV)
- 7 For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His hand. Today, if you will hear His voice: 8 “Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion, As in the day of trial in the wilderness, 9 When your fathers tested Me; They tried Me, though they saw My work. 10 For forty years I was grieved with that generation, And said, ‘It is a people who go astray in their hearts, And they do not know My ways.’ 11. So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’ ”

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- **So consider that it's mentioned again here in Psalms. The land of Canaan is occupied by the Jews at this time and David is the King of Israel and yet the Spirit of God is speaking here of the "rest", so it's not only for the Jews to live in the land that God promised but also to live obediently by faith**
- Hebrews 4:14–16 (NKJV)
- 14 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
- so here in Hebrews is an appeal for Christ's help as High Priest and to the word of God
- the book of Hebrews is another angle to the same issue addressed in Galatians
- for Christ's help to surrender our old beliefs, to the Jews it was the old covenant/law, to us it's from the carnal mind/false doctrine
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- some Jews became justified by faith and then confused as to whether they needed
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