**Hebrews 4: Sabbath Rest and the Word of God**, TC 11/6/16

***1 Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it.***

1, fail to reach it (NRSV), fall short, let us be careful that none of you, community effort…

One of the differences between the way we believe and our Calvinist (Baptist) brethren is we believe a person can turn their back on God, once have been saved, but then not so…

If we are saved by grace, and not works, how could a person fall short or fail to reach it?

***2For we also have had the good news proclaimed to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because they did not share the faith of those who obeyed.***

Referring to the Israelites that were 40 years and over and did not reach the PL due to their stubbornness, disobedience, and lack of faith

Sadly, some in the same church have faith, some not, some will reach Heaven, some not, because some do not share the same faith that is expressed thru obedience…

***3Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, “So I declared on oath in my anger, ‘They shall never enter my rest.’” And yet his works have been finished since the creation of the world. 4For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: “On the seventh day God rested from all his works.” 5And again in the passage above he says, “They shall never enter my rest.”***

**2 Rests** are discussed here:

1. **A rest from WORKS to be Saved**
2. **A rest that awaits us in HEAVEN**

Sabbath rest, resting on the 7th day, God worked and then rested, symbolic of us working here on Earth: serving in church, giving, witnessing, praying, fasting, etc.

And then, one day entering into an eternal rest from our works, Heaven

We are not saved by works, but by grace!

Yet every NT writer conveys the thought that if we are saved…

**2 Signs of Salvation are:**

* **SERVICE**
* **GOOD WORKS**

Paul says in **Ephesians 2:8-10,**

***For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9not by works, so that no one can boast. 10For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.***

**James** **2:14-18, *What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? 15Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? 17In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*** ***18But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.”***

***Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.***

**Luke 9:62, *No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.***

**1 Peter 2:8-9, *and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. 9But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.***

***6Therefore since it still remains for some to enter that rest, and since those who formerly had the good news proclaimed to them did not go in because of their disobedience, 7God again set a certain day, calling it “Today.” This he did when a long time later he spoke through David, as in the passage already quoted: “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.”***

Disobedience prevented some of the Israelites from entering the PL, and today, disobedience can prevent some of us from entering Heaven.

We can’t continue to disobey, habitually practice sin, and take advantage of grace.

**Romans 6:1-4**, ***What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.***

Part of this new life is good works.

Good works keep us focused…

**DISTRACTION = DISOBEDIENCE = HARDNESS**

Distraction produces disobedience, and continual disobedience produces hardness of the heart

The result of deliberately disobeying God’s Word and the conviction of the HS is that a person’s heart becomes hard and calloused; they no longer feel or think they are sinning, they no longer hear God’s voice, they no longer realize they are out of God’s will and away from His presence

**Where does Distraction come from?**

* **BELZEBUB**

**2 Corinthians 2:10-11**, ***Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, 11in order that Satan might not outwit us. For, we are not unaware of his schemes.***

Because of the WOG thru sermons, reading our Bibles, and the HS bringing to remembrance what we have read and heard we are aware of Satan’s schemes.

Paul mentions not forgiving as a trick/trap/scheme of the devil.

Disobedience and sin is not just what we do, it’s also what we don’t do, sins of commission and sins of omission, **James 4:17**

***17If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn’t do it, it is sin for them.***

* **US**

**James 1:13-17, *When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; 14but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. 15Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.*** ***16Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. 17Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.***

Distraction, temptation, and deviation not only come from Satan but also from within.

We can’t be like Flip Wilson and say, “The devil made me do it!”

We give Satan too much credit. He is powerful, cunning, and baffling, but so is our flesh!

There is another distracter, and it is being too

* **BUSY**

James 1:16-17, don’t be deceived, good things are from God, but don’t abuse them…

Too busy making $, too busy with my education, with my relationship, too busy with people and things, and, too busy with healthy productive things, sadly though distracts us from God.

A person can even be so busy working for God that they neglect walking with God.

Leaders, servants, and volunteers, thank you for serving. But if you’re too busy to come to prayer, and join a HG, and have fellowship with other Christians, and witness outside of church, and pray and read daily…

I’d rather you do these things, because without daily Christian disciplines in our lives, we offer nothing.

But, if you and I can focus on our relationship with God and our responsibilities for God, we will be effective in the KOG and one day enter that heavenly rest!

***8For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day. 9There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; 10for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his.***

Let’s not get to comfortable here, or store too many treasures here, Heaven is our home!

**Philippians 3:20-21**

***20But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.***

***11Let us therefore make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience. 12For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. 13Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.***

11, 2 things regarding effort:

1. Effort avoids disobedience
2. God honors and multiplies our efforts

Thru effort, God used David to defeat Goliath the giant

Thru effort, a little boy’s lunch fed 5000 men+ in the hands of Jesus

Thru effort, a woman pushed thru the crowd, touched Jesus’ hem and received her healing

Half measures avail us nothing church, do your best/part and God will do His best/part

12, the WOG warns us, reminds us, inspires us, leads us, challenges us, comforts us, strengthens us, and is lamp to our feet (The WOG shows me where I’m at) and a light to our path (The WOG shows me where I’m going)

**God’s Word divides Soul and Spirit:**

**My Soul is my THOUGHTS, EMOTIONS, and WILL** (flesh)

**My Spirit is my CONSCIENCE, and CONNECTION with God.**

I come into the service, or pray, or read the Bible, or go to Bible Study or a HG, I go in convinced of something, I know it, I think it, I feel it, and hence I will act accordingly.

Then, the WOG separates my soul and spirit, goes beyond my soul and makes a connection with my spirit and shows me truth, and that truth sets me free from ignorance, deception, and my flesh

God’s Word is, powerful, practical, pedagogical, and purposeful…

**The Bible’s Function and Purpose for Us:** (13 functions the Bible has in our lives as believers)

**James 1:23-25 MIRROR**

**1 Peter 1:23 SEED**

**Exodus 30:18/Ephesians 5:26 SINK & WATER**

**Proverbs 6:23 LAMP & LIGHT**

**Jeremiah 23:29 FIRE & HAMMER**

**Job 23:12 FOOD**

* **MILK 1 Peter 2:2**
* **BREAD Matthew 4:4**
* **MEAT Hebrews 5:12-14**
* **HONEY Psalm 119:103**

13, 1) nothing and no one is hidden from God 2) one day we will give an account

**1 John 1:8-9**

***8If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.***

We have a challenge to stay focused, work now, rest later, work, watch, and wait

We have a loving, compassionate, and sympathetic Savior that is rooting/praying for us

***14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. 16 Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.***

In JC our HP we will find the grace, mercy, and help to make it to that eternal rest!

**Hebreos 4: El Reposo Sábado y la Palabra de Dios**, ILT 11/6/16

***1 Cuidémonos, por tanto, no sea que, aunque la promesa de entrar en su reposo sigue vigente, alguno de ustedes parezca quedarse atrás.***

***2Porque a nosotros, lo mismo que a ellos, se nos ha anunciado la buena \*noticia; pero el mensaje que escucharon no les sirvió de nada, porque no se unieron en la fe a los que habían prestado atención a ese mensaje.***

***3En tal reposo entramos los que somos creyentes, conforme Dios ha dicho: «Así que, en mi enojo, hice este juramento: “Jamás entrarán en mi reposo.” » Es cierto que su trabajo quedó terminado con la creación del mundo, 4pues en algún lugar se ha dicho así del séptimo día: «Y en el séptimo día reposó Dios de todas sus obras.» 5Y en el pasaje citado también dice: «Jamás entrarán en mi reposo.»***

**2 Reposos:**

1. **Un Reposo de OBRAS para ser Salvo**
2. **Un Reposo que nos espera en el CIELO**

**Efesios 2:8-10, *Porque por gracia ustedes han sido salvados mediante la fe; esto no procede de ustedes, sino que es el regalo de Dios, 9no por obras, para que nadie se \*jacte.10Porque somos hechura de Dios, creados en Cristo Jesús para buenas obras, las cuales Dios dispuso de antemano a fin de que las pongamos en práctica.***

**Santiago 2:14-18, *Hermanos míos, ¿de qué le sirve a uno alegar que tiene fe, si no tiene obras? ¿Acaso podrá salvarlo esa fe? 15Supongamos que un hermano o una hermana no tienen con qué vestirse y carecen del alimento diario, 16y uno de ustedes les dice: «Que les vaya bien; abríguense y coman hasta saciarse», pero no les da lo necesario para el cuerpo. ¿De qué servirá eso? 17Así también la fe por sí sola, si no tiene obras, está muerta. 18Sin embargo, alguien dirá: «Tú tienes fe, y yo tengo obras.» Pues bien, muéstrame tu fe sin las obras, y yo te mostraré la fe por mis obras.***

**Lucas 9:62, *Nadie que mire atrás después de poner la mano en el arado es apto para el reino de Dios.***

**1 Pedro 2:8-9, *y también: «una piedra de \*tropiezo y una roca que hace \*caer.» Tropiezan al desobedecer la palabra, para lo cual estaban destinados. 9Pero ustedes son linaje escogido, real sacerdocio, nación santa, pueblo que pertenece a Dios, para que proclamen las obras maravillosas de aquel que los llamó de las tinieblas a su luz admirable.***

***6Sin embargo, todavía falta que algunos entren en ese reposo, y los primeros a quienes se les anunció la buena noticia no entraron por causa de su desobediencia.7Por eso, Dios volvió a fijar un día, que es «hoy», cuando mucho después declaró por medio de David lo que ya se ha mencionado: «Si ustedes oyen hoy su voz, no endurezcan el corazón.»***

**Romanos 6:1-4*, ¿Qué concluiremos? ¿Vamos a persistir en el pecado, para que la gracia abunde?2¡De ninguna manera! Nosotros, que hemos muerto al pecado, ¿cómo podemos seguir viviendo en él? 3¿Acaso no saben ustedes que todos los que fuimos bautizados para unirnos con Cristo Jesús, en realidad fuimos bautizados para participar en su muerte?4Por tanto, mediante el bautismo fuimos sepultados con él en su muerte, a fin de que, así como Cristo \*resucitó por el poder del Padre, también nosotros llevemos una vida nueva.***

**DISTRACCION = DESOBEDIENCIA = DUREZA**

**¿De dónde viene la Distracción?**

* **El DIABLO**

**2 Corintios 2:10-11, *A quien ustedes perdonen, yo también lo perdono. De hecho, si había algo que perdonar, lo he perdonado por consideración a ustedes en presencia de Cristo, 11para que Satanás no se aproveche de nosotros, pues no ignoramos sus artimañas.***

**Santiago 4:17, *Así que comete pecado todo el que sabe hacer el bien y no lo hace.***

* **NOSOTROS**

**Santiago 1:13-17, *Que nadie, al ser tentado, diga: «Es Dios quien me tienta.» Porque Dios no puede ser tentado por el mal, ni tampoco tienta él a nadie. 14Todo lo contrario, cada uno es tentado cuando sus propios malos deseos lo arrastran y seducen. 15Luego, cuando el deseo ha concebido, engendra el pecado; y el pecado, una vez que ha sido consumado, da a luz la muerte. 16Mis queridos hermanos, no se engañen. 17Toda buena dádiva y todo don perfecto descienden de lo alto, donde está el Padre que creó las lumbreras celestes, y que no cambia como los astros ni se mueve como las sombras.***

* **Ser demasiado OCUPADO**

***8Si Josué les hubiera dado el reposo, Dios no habría hablado posteriormente de otro día. 9Por consiguiente, queda todavía un reposo especial para el pueblo de Dios;10porque el que entra en el reposo de Dios descansa también de sus obras, así como Dios descansó de las suyas.***

**Filipenses 3:20-21, *En cambio, nosotros somos ciudadanos del cielo, de donde anhelamos recibir al Salvador, el Señor Jesucristo. 21Él transformará nuestro cuerpo miserable para que sea como su cuerpo glorioso, mediante el poder con que somete a sí mismo todas las cosas.***

***11Esforcémonos, pues, por entrar en ese reposo, para que nadie caiga al seguir aquel ejemplo de desobediencia. 12Ciertamente, la palabra de Dios es viva y poderosa, y más cortante que cualquier espada de dos filos. Penetra hasta lo más profundo del alma y del espíritu, hasta la médula de los huesos, y juzga los pensamientos y las intenciones del corazón.13Ninguna cosa creada escapa a la vista de Dios. Todo está al descubierto, expuesto a los ojos de aquel a quien hemos de rendir cuentas.***

**La Palabra de Dios divide al ALMA y el ESPIRITU:**

**Mi Alma es mis PENSAMIENTOS, EMOCIONES, y mi VOLUNTAD**

**Mi Espíritu es mi CONCIENCIA y la CONEXIÓN con Dios**

**La Función y el Propósito de la Biblia para Nosotros:**

**Santiago 1:23-25 ESPEJO**

**1 Pedro 1:23 SIMIENTE**

**Éxodo 30:18/Efesios 5:26 LAVAMANOS y AGUA**

**Proverbios 6:23 LAMPARA y LUZ**

**Jeremías 23:29 FUEGO y MARTILLO**

**Job 23:12 ALIMENTO**

* **LECHE 1 Pedro 2:2**
* **PAN Mateo 4:4**
* **CARNE Hebreos 5:12-14**
* **MIEL Salmo 119:103**

**1 Juan 1:8-9, *Si afirmamos que no tenemos pecado, nos engañamos a nosotros mismos y no tenemos la verdad. 9Si confesamos nuestros pecados, Dios, que es fiel y justo, nos los perdonará y nos limpiará de toda maldad.***

***14Por lo tanto, ya que en Jesús, el Hijo de Dios, tenemos un gran sumo sacerdote que ha atravesado los cielos, aferrémonos a la fe que profesamos. 15Porque no tenemos un sumo sacerdote incapaz de compadecerse de nuestras debilidades, sino uno que ha sido \*tentado en todo de la misma manera que nosotros, aunque sin pecado. 16Así que acerquémonos confiadamente al trono de la gracia para recibir misericordia y hallar la gracia que nos ayude en el momento que más la necesitemos.***