

"Jesus Is Enough"

Let's conclude our study on the "enough-ness" of Jesus with a final look at Hebrews 4. The essence of the author's argument is this: "You new covenant believers (Hebrew and Gentile Christians) have a much better arrangement than the old covenant believers (Israelites) – there is no reason not to experience a much better rest!" His remaining counsel is in Hebrews 4:10-16. Let's put it in an acrostic – "R.E.S.T."

Rely Upon Our Great High Priest: Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Son of Man (4:14)

Jesus' fully righteous ways and perfectly finished work make Him the Full and Perfect Justifier, Sanctifier, and Glorifier of man. (Ro 3:26; I Cor 1:2,30; Ro 8:30) He lives for us, He lives in us, He lives through us (Ro 8:34; Heb 7:25; Col 1:27; Ga 2:20), providing the full and perfect provision of God for our every salvation need. (Col 2:9-10) He fits and suits us perfectly with His full supply. (Heb 5:9, 7:26) (There is no rest for those always working on themselves – for self-justifiers, self-sanctifiers, self-glorifiers!)

Embrace our Living and Active Word of God: Jesus Christ (4:12)

He is living and active Truth – God's personal word for every person of any age. (Heb 13:8) He is the full representation of God... of man... of God's functioning in man. (Heb 1:2,3) He alone is our always accurate, ever constant word of Truth and indicator of Reality. Put the government of your life upon His shoulders (Is 9:6) and find rest for your soul. (There is no rest for those whose standard for Truth is always changing – for the self-determining, self-defining, and self-governing!)

Settle Down and Abide in the Perfect Love of God: Jesus Christ (4:13)

Hebrews 4:13 is either one of the scariest verses in the Bible or one of the most assuring. I declare it to be one of the strongest verses on God's grace, mercy, and love in all the Scriptures. He sees all, misses nothing, and loves us still! Behind those "eyes" is the compassionate heart of a Priest, the loving mind of an Intercessor. (Heb 7:24-25) With them He pleads for an immersive rest in the Holy Constant of God's love for us. (There is no rest for those who hide behind a bush of fear and blame – for the self-excusing, self-preserving, and self-atoning!)

Treasure Christ's Awareness of Our Humanity (Heb 4:15-16)

He is one of us! He is a sympathetic and empathetic friend, not ashamed to call us brother or sister. (Heb 2:11) He understands our every body desire, soul pressure, and spiritual conflict. He fully knows the physiological, psychological, and spiritual realities of human life in a fallen world. (Heb 2:14-18) His rest is for those who will "draw near" to Him, not flee from Him. His sufficiency is for those confessing their needs to be "escorts" into His free supply. (There is no rest for those who deny His or their own humanity – for the self-denying, self-reliant, self-sufficient.)

God's rest is for those ever ready to depend upon and derive their supply from Christ. (Phil 4:13) He is our needs met!



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Greetings

A good friend recently sent me an anthology of C.S. Lewis' writings. Listen to this from The Four Loves:
"We are born helpless. As soon as we are fully conscious, we discover loneliness... Our whole being by its very nature is one vast need; incomplete, preparatory, empty yet cluttered, crying out for (One) Who can untie things that are now knotted together and tie up things that are still dangling loose."

If we are "upside down" to God and His purposes, we will not be able to get our bearings, derive our values, make saving and solving choices that will render us whole. He is the Desire we are born desiring. He is the Abode we are meant to abide in now and forever. He is the Beloved we were created to love.

There is no consolation for our longings but the Consoler of men. There is no satisfaction for our neediness but the One Who is our needs met. There is but one Door out of all our deficits into God's intended supply... Jesus Christ, Lord of All!

To be "right-side up" with God is both a simple invitation and a non-negotiable command - receive Him, the Son of God and the Son of Man - and you may also receive the eternal right to fill up on every freedom and every privilege that comes in being full fledged children of God. (Jo 1:2)

Calendar

JUNE


10 Alachua Study
24 Ocala Study


JULY


18-20 Waymart, PA

Praise & Prayer

 A full and perfect High Priest

 Our invitation into God's own rest

 For those not yet "right side up" with God

 For ourselves to live by the freedoms and privileges of being God's children