

Impossible Dreams In This Season of Your Life (Part Three)
(Unrested and Rebellious)

February 22- 23, 2020

Hebrews 4:8-11

8 For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. ⁹ So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, ¹⁰ for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. **11 Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.** (English Standard Version)

Big Question: Are you tired?

Side Question: When will you obey God and find His rest?

Rebellion Defined: It means to be stubborn, rebel or war against. It describes an intentional resistance effort.

**I. The Slow Road to Rebellion,
Disobedience, and Fatigue
(Hebrews 3:7-11, ESV)**

⁷ Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you **hear** his voice, ⁸ do not **harden** your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, ⁹ where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. ¹⁰ Therefore I was **provoked** with that generation, and said, 'They **always go astray** in their heart; they have not known my ways.' ¹¹ As I swore in my wrath, '**They shall not enter my rest.**'"

1. Rebellious people don't **listen** to mature voices (v7)
2. Rebellious people **harden** their hearts (v8)
3. Rebellious people **provoke** God to anger (v9)
4. Rebellious people always **wonder off** and **go astray** (v10)
5. Rebellious people never get to a place of **rest** or **a place of God's full blessing** (v11)

**II. Seven Ways to Help
You Identify Rebellion
(Hebrews 4:1-16, ESV)**

1. **Look at What You Believe** (Do you really trust that God has a better plan for your life?)
 - Have you ever really rested? (or experienced God's best blessings, Hebrews 4:1-3, ESV)
 - Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, **let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it.** ² For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were **not united by faith** with those who listened.

- 3 For **we who have believed enter that rest**, as he has said, “As I swore in my wrath, **They shall not enter my rest,**” “although his works were finished from the foundation of the world.

2. Look at your schedule and your spiritual confidence (God modeled rest; 4:4-6)

- 4 For he has somewhere spoken of the **seventh day** in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all his **works.**”

Question: Can you stop and rest for a season?

3. Look at your level of fatigue (This can be a sign of disobedience)

- 5 And again in this passage he said, **“They shall not enter my rest.”** 6 Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of **disobedience**,

4. Look at your response time (How long does it take you to listen and change your behavior?)

- 7 again he appoints a certain day, “Today,” saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted, **“Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.”**

- 8 For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. 9 So then, **there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God,** 10 for whoever has entered God’s rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

5. Look at your failure rate (How often are things going wrong?)

- 11 Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, **so that no one may fall** by the same sort of disobedience.

6. Look at your thoughts and intentions (What does The Word say about your choices?)

- 12 For the word of God is living and active, **sharper** than any two-edged sword, **piercing** to the **division** of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and **discerning the thoughts and intentions** of the heart. 13 And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

7. Look at your life-style confessions (What are your consistent violations?)

- 14 Since then 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 is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Next Time: Dreaming with A Plan

Big Question: What is your plan for your future?