

Entering and Reigning in The Kingdom-Our ONLY Focus Part 9

Entering THE Rest

1 Corinthians 10:10-12 ¹⁰And do not grumble, as some of them (*Israel*) did—and were killed by the destroying angel.

¹¹These things happened to them (*Israel*) as examples **and were written down as warnings FOR US**, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.

¹²So, **if you think you are standing firm**, be careful that you don't fall!

1 Corinthians 10: ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples **to keep us** from setting our hearts on evil things as they did.

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past **was written to teach us**, SO THAT through **endurance** and the **encouragement** of the **Scriptures** we might have hope.

Psalms 95: ¹ Come, **let us** sing for joy to the LORD; **let us** shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

² **Let us** come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

³ For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. ⁵ The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

⁶ Come, **let us** bow down in worship, **let us** kneel before the LORD our Maker;

⁷ for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Today, **if you hear his voice,**

⁸ **do not** harden your hearts as **you did** at Meribah, **as you did** that day at Massah in the desert,

⁹ where your fathers tested and tried me, though they had seen what I did.

¹⁰ For forty years I was angry with that generation; I said, "They are a people **whose hearts go astray, and they have not known my ways.**"

¹¹ So I declared on oath in my anger, "**They shall never enter my rest.**"

Jeremiah 50: ⁶ "**My people** have been **lost sheep**; their shepherds have led them astray and caused them to roam on the mountains. They wandered over mountain and hill and forgot their own **resting place**.

Luke 15: ¹Now the tax collectors and "sinners" were all gathering around to hear him. ²But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴"Suppose one of you **HAS a hundred sheep** and loses one of them. (*So they are the shepherd's sheep and then He loses one*) Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found **MY** lost sheep.' ⁷I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

⁸"Or suppose a woman **HAS** ten silver coins (*so they are her's, she owns them*) and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found **MY** lost coin.' ¹⁰In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

1 John 1: ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

⁶If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸IF we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
⁹ IF we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰IF we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

Hebrews 3: ¹²See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be **hardened by sin's deceitfulness.** ¹⁴We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first. ¹⁵As has just been said:

"Today, if you hear his voice, **do not harden your hearts** as you did in the rebellion." ¹⁶Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt? ¹⁷And with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the desert? ¹⁸And to whom did God swear that **they would never enter his rest** if not to those who **disobeyed?** ¹⁹So we see that they were not able to enter, **because of their unbelief.**

Hebrews 4: ¹Therefore, 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.** ²For we also have had the **gospel** preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, **because those who heard** (*it's talking about those that heard it here*) did not combine it with faith.

³**Now 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 work has been finished since the creation of the world. ⁴For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: "And on the seventh day God rested from all his work." ⁵And again in the passage above he says, "They shall never enter my rest."

⁶It still remains that some will enter that rest, and those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience.

⁷Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before:

"Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts." 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 his own work, just as God did from his.

¹¹Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience.

¹²For the word of God is living 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. ¹⁴**Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.** ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. ¹⁶Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Now I want to go back to a verse we all read over and is key to our understanding:

³Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said,

Jeremiah 50: ⁶ "My people have been **lost sheep; THEIR SHEPHERDS** have led them astray and caused them to roam on the mountains.