The Message Of Rest

Friday 4th March 2022 Bro. James Menni

Hebrews 4:1-11

1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. ² For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

³ For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

⁴ For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.

⁵ And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest.

⁶ Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:

O

⁷ Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

⁸ For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. ⁹ There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

¹⁰ For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.

¹¹ Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Matthew 11:28-30 ²⁸ Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Man, Before The Fall, Was In Rest

<u>62-0607 - Putting On The Whole</u> <u>Armor Of God</u>

18 I'm glad there's something we can put complete trust in, aren't you? Something that's...

We don't have to wonder, think about, just know that we could just rest like little children. I think that's the way we should be, especially Christians. We should be like...

In the beginning you notice, man is trying to find that place, because when he was first made in the image of God, he didn't have to shift for himself, and God taken care of him.

But since he become a—an alien, or a—a wanderer, then he has to shift for himself, and he's suspicious of everything.

He's just (if you excuse the expression) kind of spooky. Everything looks a little leery, he's gone, he don't want to wait for it.

60-0606 - To Whom Would We

<u>Go?</u>

11 ... May the Lord add His blessings to the reading of the Word. And if I should call it a text, I would like to speak on this subject for a few moments: "To Whom Would We Go?"

10 You know, man hasn't changed very much. He's still wandering about in the world seeking pleasure, restless, never satisfied, never coming to any right conclusions, never finding rest.

<u>He's just about in the same</u> <u>condition that he was when he left</u> <u>God in the garden of Eden and</u> <u>went out to shift for himself</u>.

He's been shifting ever since. And he finds it's a rough way to go. And it looks like he doesn't care very much, to many, just where this life will end up for them.

And if we could set down and take inventory, and ask the question of why are we here? How come that we ever come on this earth and what brought us here? And where is our eternal destination going to be?

61-0214 - The Basis Of Fellowship 90 He tried to build a tower so he could get out of the way of all the floods and destructions, and find his way back on this tower, in Babel, back to God.

God condemned it, and confused their language, and the tower dropped. And every time that man tries to make his own way, he-he fails.

91 After he lost his fellowship with <u>God he become a wanderer, had to</u> shift for himself. God taken care of him before then, but now he finds he has to shift for himself, and it's a pretty hard thing.

So he doesn't have a loving Father to watch over him, and protect him, and guide him, and direct him, and feed him, and clothe him, and care for him like he did. So instead of coming back, he tries to find his own way.

<u>He wants to make his own way</u> back. Man wants to make his own way; he's always had. Always will, I suppose, try to find his own way, and every time he make his own way, he's always gets wrong.

<u>60-0925 - That Day On Calvary</u> 49 <u>Therefore, when man realized</u> <u>that he was separated from his</u> <u>God, he become a wanderer.</u>

They wept. They cried. They toiled. They wandered about, through the mountains and through the deserts, seeking a City whose builder and maker was God.

For, he knew that if he ever got back in the Presence of God, he could talk it over with Him. But there was no way back. He become

lost.

He didn't know which way to turn, so he just took out, wandering, trying to find somewhere that he could find a way back to that Place. Something on the inside of him told him that <u>he come from a—a Place that was</u> perfect.

33

<u>There is not a person here in this</u> <u>visible audience, this morning, or</u> <u>in the audience of the magnetic</u> <u>tape, where it'll go around the</u>

34

world, there is no one here, or

anywhere, but what seeks for that

perfection.

50 You get your bills paid, you think, "That'll settle it." When you got your bills paid, then there's somebody sick in your family. When the sickness gets all right, then you got more bills to pay.

The first thing you know, your hair is turning gray, and then you want to be back young. And there's something all the time, constantly, and because of that wave of sin.

But in your heart, because that you seek for that, it shows that there is a Perfection somewhere. Somewhere, there's something.

Rest Is Not Idleness Or Worldly Prosperity

59-0708E - Be Certain Of God 14 All these things had long left Ahab, because he married this sinner girl. Oh, she was very sexy, like these modern girls of today.

It prove that, after her husband was dead; she dressed herself and twisted out before Jehu, thought she could vamp that man of God, but he said, "Throw her out of the window."

We had more man like Jehu today, we'd have less Jezebels. But that was her nature, and she was a worshiper of idolatry. And she brought the whole nation to idolatry.

And so has our modern trend today, falling away from the things of God and has brought the world to one of the greatest idolatries that we have, that's idleness. Just idleing around.

<u>Great is the iniquity of the people</u> today, making plenty of money, and think that God's a blessing us because He's prospered us. That's <u>no sign of God's blessing, not at</u> all.

The Whole Christian Principle Is Based Upon Rest

56-0128 - Inspiration

45 The other night the Lord give me a message on resting. The whole **Christian principle** is based upon rest. I woke up about ten o'clock in the night.

I didn't have no audience to preach to, and so I just, well, I went over and woke up my wife and preached to her till one o'clock in the morning about resting: good audience. But I was burning in my heart, resting.

<u>I said, "Why are we troubled? 'Let</u> not your hearts be troubled,' He said. We're just resting. 'Come to Me and ye shall find rest. Take My voke upon vou, learn of Me,' finding rest." Then, while...

48 I said when you once come to <u>Christ, once believe Him, once</u> accept Him, enter into the rest, all the things of the world seems to <u>die away. You've got rest then, rest</u> to your soul. And you enter into that state, and there you are. You're resting then with Christ.

<u>56-0427 - Faith</u>

- 25<u>When you've come to</u>
- <u>Christ, everything's</u>
- <u>settled. "Come unto Me all ye that</u>
- labor-labor and are heavy laden,
- and I'll give you rest."

<u>It's settled. It's all over. Christ has</u> <u>done paid the price. Everything</u> <u>you have to do is just rest. Let</u> <u>down.</u>

Quit jumping around, getting all disturbed, place to place and denominations, packing your letter from the Methodists to the Baptist. Put it in heaven once and leave it there. See? Don't be disturbed. Let God...

Just come to Him and rest. If He's Jehovah-jireh, rest on it. If He's Jehovah-rapha, rest on it. If He's the Lord that saves us by grace, rest on it. If He's the Lord Who heals us by grace, rest on it.

If He's the God that's coming from heaven with ten thousands of His saints, rest on it. If the dead in Christ shall rise first, rest on it.

Everything, rest. Oh, my. I feel pretty religious right now. Oh, resting, not jumping about from pillar to post and carried about with every wind of doctrine, but resting on what God said.

26 Every promise in the Book is yours. Every amen and yea is yours. What you got to be worried about? Even old age, it shouldn't have a thing to do with it.

Sickness has nothing to do with it. God promised, and God has to <u>keep His promise. See what we're</u> trying to do is get the scare away from you.

Rest And Grace Go Together; Works And Law Go Together

61-0129 - Turning Northward

58

It would be hard for Israel to think that the promised land was forty years away when they were standing on the other side of the Red Sea, dancing, shouting, rejoicing, when they were only merely just a few days from it.

It isn't but just a very short time. I think with an automobile you could probably drive it in an hour and a half.

By walking you could make it in two days, three or four something like that, easy. You could go on to the promised land. And they were thinking that they were almost there, and they were having a great jubilee of shouting and praising God, and seeing what God had did for them, and how that...

It'd been hard to make them believe that they was forty years away from that promise, to the full promise of God that He promised them.

5 <u>Grace had provided them a great</u> <u>thing. Grace had provided them a</u>

Passover

lamb. Grace had provided them a

<u>prophet.</u>

And grace had provided them an Angel. The Passover lamb was for their sins.

Their prophet was their instructor. The Angel was their guide. Grace had provided everythi ng for them. But in spite of all of that, they wanted a law.

And this grace had provided them an escape out of Egypt before they had any law. Then grace had provided the m one of the greatest revivals that they'd ever had. In this revival they had seen great powers of God.

In this revival they had seen sunshine while the rest of the world was in darkness. In this revival they'd seen the mighty hand of God deliver the innocent people, bringing them from bondage in deliverance.

And in this revival, after they'd crossed over the Red Sea, they found all their enemies dead in the <u>Red Sea behind them. Why would</u> they want to add anything to that?

6 They stand just about like our Pentecostal fathers did about forty years ago or a little better, after we had seen the same things that they had seen, one of the mightiest revivals that the church ever had:

Seen divine healing, the people brought out of bondage, being bound by fetters of denominations and so forth, been brought out into a freedom.

Grace had provided them everything they had need of: an Angel of God to lead them, prophets, great men.

7 I heard them say the other day that Azusa Street meetings, when they had it over here in California, that they thought it was a disgrace when they ever entered the song books in the church.

They sang in the Spirit. Just as the Spirit gave them utterance, they sang. They danced in the Spirit. They had a great time.

And they expected the Word of God in sanctification to separate them from their sins, and they knowed they'd passed from death unto life. What a revival they were having of some forty years ago!

But as Israel did, so did our fathers make a fatal mistake—one thing that's held them in the wilderness another forty years.

We find out that instead of being satisfied with what they had, and what God had done for them, and seeing the works of His hands,

the fruit of grace providing everything they had need of-even to so much as they didn't have to have a song book. I wish I could've seen that in them days.

8 But Israel, after all those things, Israel in the natural... This is Israel in the spiritual. Just as God was taking His people to a promised land in the natural,

<u>He's taking His church to a</u> promised land in the spiritual. And they was on their road having a great time, but yet they...

After grace had provided everything that they had need of, yet they wanted something to do themselves, something that they could show God they had <u>something to do into it.</u>

And that's what... The church, when it gets in that condition, it's always when they lose out. And when you try, or I try, or any man tries, to put his hand on the work of God, to add something to it, or take something away from it...

We must leave it just the way that God provided it for us. Just let the revival move on as the Spirit

moves on.

54-1212 - He Swore By Himself 201 Grace come on, then God made a covenant by gra ce. And, when He did, the children of Israel down in Egypt.

God already said, by His Word, what He was going to do. He was going to bring them out. And God is obligated to His Word.

But then when God, obligated to His Word, went down there and sent a saviour, Moses, grace provided that. Here come Moses, leading the children of Israel out, when they come out with him.

202 Got out in the wilderness, said, "Oh, give us something to do. We want to form us an organization, and we want you to give us something to do. Let us make us something like this.

Give us a law to keep." Exodus 19 was the greatest mistake that Israel ever made. When grace had <u>already provided their salvation</u>, then they wanted something to do, to merit it.

God already swore to Abraham, what He was going to go. They said, "Let us have the law." And the law never did; no one (never) kept it. They never did.

Romans 4:1-8 1 What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found?

² For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.

³ For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

⁴ Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

⁵ But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. ⁶ Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, ⁷ Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. ⁸ Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

All Those To Whom The Promise Of Rest Was Given Fell Short Of It

97 <u>65-0117 - A Paradox</u> 79 <u>Now if we notice, then, their</u>

journey in the wilderness is where

they got their greatest mistake

that Israel ever made, until

<u>Calvary, was when (in the Exodus</u> 19) they accepted law instead of



They had grace. They had a prophet. They had—they had a sacrificial lamb. They had redemption. They had been brought through the Red Sea. They had been healed of their diseases.

<u>They had had water from a smitten</u> rock. They had—they had manna out of heaven. Everything they had need of had been supplied, and still they wanted something else.

80 Now that's a perfect type of our Ephesians today, exactly. We come out under Luther; we went through sanctification, under Methodist; and came into the restoration, under Pentecost. Exactly like it was, the wilderness journey.

And when God brought us out, we did very well. But what did we do? Wanted to be like the rest of them. Now we find out that grace is the only thing that takes us through, never law.

<u>1 Corinthians 11:1-3</u> **1** Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.

² Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.

³ But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

64-0418E - Jesus Keeps All His

- <u>Appointments</u>
- 13And away they went, in
- organizations, and split up, breaking up their brotherhood among the people.

14 And just like Israel. Little did Israel know that when they were shouting the victory on the bank of the river, they were only about four-day's journey, about forty miles, away from the promised land.

<u>They didn't realize they were forty</u> years, it'd take them. But what was it? Grace had provided them a prophet, a Pillar of Fire, a sacrificed lamb, a deliverance. And still they wanted a law.

They want something they could have something to do into. They want to put their hands to it. That was the most rashal mistake they ever made, in Exodus 19, when Israel rejected grace and accepted law.

15 And then what did they do? He just let them stay right there in the wilderness for forty years. They plant vineyards, and they eat fruit, and they married wives,

and they raised children, till that old generation died off and another generation come on. Forty years later, and not hardly forty hours away,

<u>but had to wait for forty years</u> <u>before they went over. Then a new</u> <u>leader came in, Joshua, and they</u> <u>moved on into the land, with the</u>

new group.

16 Now, I think it's a very beautiful type here, that we find out. Long ago, when our forefathers in the Pentecost, they raised up. They had the old General Council, from that formed the Assemblies of God.

Out of that come the UPC, then United, and so forth, till they got organization after organizations, fussing and fighting.

God just let them set right there. marry wives, raise children, speak in tongues, shout in the Spirit. But now there's a new group come up. They were only just a few days from the promised land. All these blessings they had was fine.

But, remember, the whole land belonged to them. Now we're fixing to go into the Promised Land, so may the Lord help us as we look upon these things. See?

There Remaineth A Rest For The People Of God

63-0901E - Desperations 22 And all the things that He hasn't done down through the ages, in the church ages, He is now doing.

Back to the Word, because the messages and the messages and the messages has to wind up in the entire Word.

And in the last days, the Seven Seals being opened, was to pick up every straggle that's been left off in it

<u>in it,</u>

and make the whole thing in one great big body of the Bride, that them who lived back there was not perfect until this Church be perfected, this Bride group in the last days, to bring them in, and all together be taken up. See?

Rest Is Only In The Third Step

<u>61-0618 - Revelation, Chapter Five</u>¹²² #2

- 114 <u>Now, when finally she found</u> <u>favor with Boaz, what</u>
- happened? Then Naomi told her,
- <u>"You wait here while Boaz does the</u>
- work of a kinsman
- redeemer, 'cause he is the only one that can do it.

He is our next kinsman redeemer, and you just wait here. Don't go in the fields no more. Don't do this, that, or the other. You just wait until the kinsman redeemership has been fulfilled." And she rested. Amen!

115 That's exactly what the Church has come to in this last stage of Pentecost. See? In the beginning of Pentecost they all worked up and they "had to do this," and they shook them and everything else. Now what is the **Church doing?**

124

<u>The true Church is</u> just resting. What is Rest? Here it is, Rest is the "Holy Spirit," the sabbath day. (The Seventh-day Adventists want to tell us, you know, about being the seventh-day sabbath or something like that.)

In Hebrews the 4th chapter, said, "We which have entered into His Rest have ceased from our works as God did from His." So the sabbath is the Holy Spirit.

116 <u>And when Ruth was resting, it</u> was a type of the Church resting in the promises of God! We have the earnest now of our salvation.

We're not worried whether we're going over there or not, we're going! That's right. God said so! God promised it and we've got the earnest (Amen.), done been received, Christ has accepted us.

<u>No way to get away from lt now,</u> we're there! Amen! All we have to do is just wait till the...He take...

<u>He's down doing the Kinsman</u> Redeemership. We have the earnest of it right now, waiting for the time that when He comes back. And then what next thing Ruth was, Ruth was rewarded.

117 That's what the Church did. It entered into justification, under Luther. It went into sanctification, under Wesley. Went into the baptism of the Holy Chost, in this last days.

132 And now resting with the earnest of our inheritance that we know that something happened in us, we've passed from death unto Life, and waiting, groaning with nature, for that time when we will receive an immortal Life, an immortal fulness;

our bodies will be redeemed. Everything's redeemed, and we're just waiting from Him to return back from the gate. Amen!

118 <u>Then what? Ruth</u> <u>was rewarded. That's when we'll be</u> <u>rewarded. That's what this</u> <u>seven-sealed Book is going to open</u>

<u>up to us.</u>

What is these things? They're mysteries. They're not wrote in the Word, they have to be revealed by the Holy Spirit;

but if you'll notice, actually, they are revealed all down through the Scriptures but they been hid from the people. When we get to the roll after while, you'll see how it was fixed, then you'll know just how them things open up.

119 Now, yes, resting. What Ruth under justification...Do you see it, say "Amen." [Congregation says, "Amen!"—Ed.] Ruth under sanctification, laboring, legalist. Rut <u>h, resting, waiting for Boaz to</u> return from the finished work.

120 Now, our Boaz did finish the work at Calvary. But before He come to take us to His Home, He goes Home first (in John 14) to prepare a place for us. Glory!

55-1006A - A Hidden Life 46 Another thing, we will call your attention just before we close. Look at the light, on the outside in the courts it was the firmament that lit it up, sunlight, and so forth.

Some days was cloudy; some days the sun didn't shine at all. Some days it was dark. Now, that's in the outer court.

The next court was the lamp of God where the justified stand, and it was lit by human hands. That's where we argue our denominations, where we argue our differences, split hairs: "And oh, I don't believe in Divine healing.

I don't believe them visions come from God. I don't believe this; I don't believe that." You're arguing, because you're living... Yet you're eating manna, but you're living under artificial light.

That's right. Sometimes the lights goes out. Sometimes your lamp gets smoked up, but to he who desires to hide away, walk into the next place, there's no artificial light anywhere.

But down in between the arch of the wings of these Cherubim was a supernatural Light hanging in there, which was a Halo of God, that lit the whole room.

And a man once entered into that Shekinah glory (Hallelujah!), that moves back there in the Presence of Almighty God. [Brother Branham knocks on the pulpit—Ed.]

The dimness of this world, any artificial organizations, and all man-made creeds has passed away, and he's living in the Shekinah glory of Almighty God.

47 <u>My brethren, let's ask God for</u> <u>that place to live.....</u>

When They For Whom It Was Given Rejected, God Sent The Third Pull To Bring A Bride Who Could Get To True Rest

<u>63-0630E - Is Your Life Worthy Of</u> <u>The Gospel?</u>

31 Now turn in your Bibles, to the Book of Saint Luke, and we'll start at the 14th chapter and the 16th verse, to read some Scripture for a basis,

for a background, for this that we're going to try to lot about thirty to forty minutes on. Now, the 16th verse of the 14th chapter of Saint Luke.

Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servants at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for—for all things are now ready.

And they all with one accord begin to make excuses. The first said unto him, I...bought a piece of ground, and I must need go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.

And another said, I have bought five yoke of ox, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. ...another said, I have married a wife,...therefore I cannot come.

So the servant came, and showed his lord all these thing. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant,... Notice, it's not servants. "Servant."

...Go out quickly into the streets and the lane, and the cities, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou has commanded, and yet there is room.

...the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.

For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of

my supper.

32 Now, did you notice, there was three pulls, or three turns, of it? When they went out, first, and call to them that were, or, bidden to come, and they didn't do it.

So there went out a healing campaign, went out to get the blind and halt. And still there were room, so he went out and compelled the good, bad, and indifferent; they should come in.

Let Us Stand With Our Joshua

- 5 - The Pergamean Church Age Now let us stand like Joshua and Caleb. Our promised land is coming in sight even as theirs did.

Now Joshua means "Jehovah-Saviour," and he <u>represents the end-time leader that</u> will come to the church even as Paul <u>came as the original leader.</u>

<u>Caleb represents those that stayed</u> true with Joshua. Remember, God had started Israel as a virgin with His Word. But they wanted something different. So did the last-day church.

Notice how God did not move Israel. <u>or let her go into the promised land</u> until it was His own appointed time. Now the people might have put pressure on Joshua, the leader, and said, "The land is ours, let's go and take it.

Joshua, you are all through, you must have lost your commission, you don't have the power you used to have. You <u>used to hear from God and know the</u> will of God, and act quickly.

<u>Something is wrong with you." But</u> Joshua was a God-sent prophet and he knew the promises of God, so he waited for them. He waited for a clear-cut decision from God and when the time came to move,

<u>God placed the full leadership in</u> Joshua's hands because he had stayed with the Word. God could trust Joshua but not the others. So it will repeat in this end day. The same problem, the same pressures.

65-1205 - Things That Are To Be 62 Oh, but the other one is called, "My Father's House." "I'll go and prepare a place for you. Take you out of this pesthouse and deliver you into My Father's House." Amen.

There you are; take you out of this old earthly pesthouse. He's gone to prepare a place, a perfect place where no evil exists, no sickness exists, no old age exists, no death

<u>exists.</u>

It's a perfect place calling you to that perfection, and you have to be perfect to get there. The Bible said so. Jesus said, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect."

lt's a perfect Kingdom, so it must be a perfect people come. Because, you have to stand and be married to a perfect Son of God, and you must be a perfect Bride.

So how can you do it through anything else but the perfect Word of God, which is, "The Waters of separation, that washes us from our sins"?

Amen. That's right. The Blood of Jesus Christ, think of It, the dripping, Bloody Word. Amen. The Blood, the-the Word of God bleeding Blood, to wash the Bride in. Amen. Yes, sir.

She stands perfect, virgin, unadulterated. She never sinned, in the first place. Amen. She was trapped into it. See? There's the Father's House that He's gone to prepare.