

HEBREWS LESSON SEVEN QUESTIONS

1. In v. 1, what is the author exhorting his hearers to fear? What is the promise he refers to and who made it?
2. In what way are the faithless fathers similar to the current hearers of this message? How are they different? See verse 2
3. In v. 3, how does the author say he and his hearers enter God's rest? What/who is it they have believed? What does it mean that faith must have an object?
4. Read Genesis 2:1-3. What is the reason given for God resting? How does the author link God resting after completing the creation with the failure of the fathers to enter the promised land (His rest for them)? See v. 3-5
5. Who are the ones the author refers to when he says in v. 6, "it remains for some to enter?" How are these different from the ones who failed to enter the rest prepared for them by God?
6. In v. 6-8, what does the author mean by "He again fixes a certain day, 'today'"?
7. Why do you think David and Joshua could not lead anyone into God's ultimate rest? How are these two men types which point to the One who could?
8. How was Sabbath keeping an evidence of trusting the Lord in the 'today' of the fathers and the people of Israel? Why does the author declare the New Covenant rest a Sabbath rest for the people of God?
9. What do you think the author's main point to his audience is throughout his application of Psalm 95 to his hearers?

10. Consider the vivid picture the author continues to highlight of the fathers not entering the land (God's rest prepared for them.) In what were they trusting? As a New Covenant saint, if you are not trusting completely in the identity and work of Jesus Christ, in what or in who are you placing your faith?

11. Though we as Christians are aware of the fact that Jesus has freed us from working for our salvation and His approval, how do you functionally act otherwise? Why do you think that is? What are some ways you can be diligent to enter His rest on a daily basis?

12. What evidence do you see in the culture around you that people are judging God's Word, rather than it judging them? What reasons do you hear given for not believing what the Word of God declares? How can you prevent yourself from doing this?

13. Read vs. 12-13. Does God's ability to search and know every detail of your life comfort or disquiet you? Why do you think that is the case? How does the author of Hebrews use this to both comfort and challenge his hearers?

14. Read vs. 14-16. These verses are a kind of 'bridge' between the author's application of Psalm 95 to his audience and his next section, which is a return to exploring Jesus' identity as our great high priest from chapter 2:17-18. How does this section fit with what has been taught in this lesson? (We will begin next week's discussion time with a short teaching about these verses.)