

Hebrews (January 31, 2021)

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ Hebrews 4:1-13

1. What is the warning concerning the good news in Hebrews 4:1-3? How does it parallel the response of those who died in the wilderness (Hebrews 3:7-19)?

2. “The scope of the promise of entering into God’s rest extends far beyond the historical event of the entry of the Israelites into Canaan under Joshua’s leadership.”

(A Commentary on the Epistle to the Hebrews pg. 155 by Philip Edgcumbe Hughes)

Find the various references to “rest” in Hebrews 4:1-13 and share what this rest might be and if this is a present and/or future rest.

3. Name some of the things that keep us from “resting” in God?

4. Define the word “strive”. Explain how we can “strive to enter that rest.” (Hebrews 4:11; 10:36; John 6:29; Philippians 3:13-14)

5. From Hebrews 4:12 expound upon the characteristics describing the word of God being “living and active” (Genesis 1:3; Isaiah 55:10-11; 2 Cor. 4:6; 1 Peter 1:23).

6. “Calvin says, there is nothing so hard or firm in a man, nothing so deeply hidden that the efficacy of the word does not penetrate through to it.”

(A Commentary on the Epistle to the Hebrews pg.165 by Philip Edgcumbe Hughes).

The word of God is described as being “sharper than a two-edged sword.” What is a sword’s purpose? What does this term reveal to you about God (John 12:48; Acts 1:24,15:8, 2:37; Eph. 6:17)?

7. How do Psalm 139:1-3, 7-8, 13 and 1 Corinthians 4:5 bring clarity to the statement, “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” (Hebrews 4:13)? What is your response to this knowledge of God?

8. What has impacted you the most from Hebrews 4:1-13?