

HEBREWS 3:8-11

» 8 † Harden not your hearts, **as in the provocation**, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

» 9 † **When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.**

» 10 † Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways.

» 11 † So I swear in my wrath, **They shall not enter into my rest.**)

Provocation

- action or speech that makes someone annoyed or angry, especially deliberately.

- **They heard It, but they didn't believe It.**
- God come down. He showed them a Pillar of Fire. Showed by His prophets, signs and wonders, He was with him.
- **They didn't believe It.** Oh, they liked to see the miracles. They liked to hear the prophet.
- **But as far as believing It, they didn't.** Their lives proves they didn't.
- **"Now," He said, "don't you fall after that same example of unbelief."** For in this last days, to the Gentile church, God has appeared again; same sign, same wonder, same Pillar of Fire, vindicated, proven.
- **Let us not harden our hearts and fall in that temptation back yonder, of unbelief, for we'll rot on earth and that'll be all of it.**

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1/14 Provocations – *Ready to turn back because of hardship*

Exodus 5:19-21

» 19 † And the officers of the children of Israel did see that they were in evil case, after it was said, Ye shall not minish ought from your bricks of your daily task.

» 20 † And they met Moses and Aaron, who stood in the way, as they came forth from Pharaoh:

» 21 † And they said unto them, **The LORD look upon you, and judge; because ye have made our savour to be abhorred in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to slay us.**

2/14 Provocations – *Desire to turn back at the Red Sea*

Exodus 14:10-12

» 10 † And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, **the Egyptians marched after them**; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD.

» 11 † And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? **wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us**, to carry us forth out of Egypt?

» 12 † **Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians?** For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.

3/14 Provocations – Murmuring at *Bitter Waters*

Exodus 15:22-26

» 22 † So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.

» 23 † And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.

» 24 † **And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?**

» 25 † And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, **and there he proved them,**

» 26 † **And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.**

4/14 Provocations – *Why did we leave Egypt to die of **hunger**?*

Exodus 16:1-5

» 1 † And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt.

» 2 † And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness:

» 3 † And the children of Israel said unto them, **Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.**

» 4 † Then said the LORD unto Moses, **Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you;** and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no.

5/14 Provocations – *Why did we leave Egypt to die of **thirst**?*

Exodus 17:1-6

» 1 † And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, after their journeys, according to the commandment of the LORD, and pitched in Rephidim: **and there was no water for the people to drink.**

» 2 † Wherefore **the people did chide with Moses, and said, Give us water that we may drink. And Moses said unto them, Why chide ye with me? wherefore do ye tempt the LORD?**

» 3 † **And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?**

» 4 † And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, **What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.**

» 5 † And the LORD said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go.

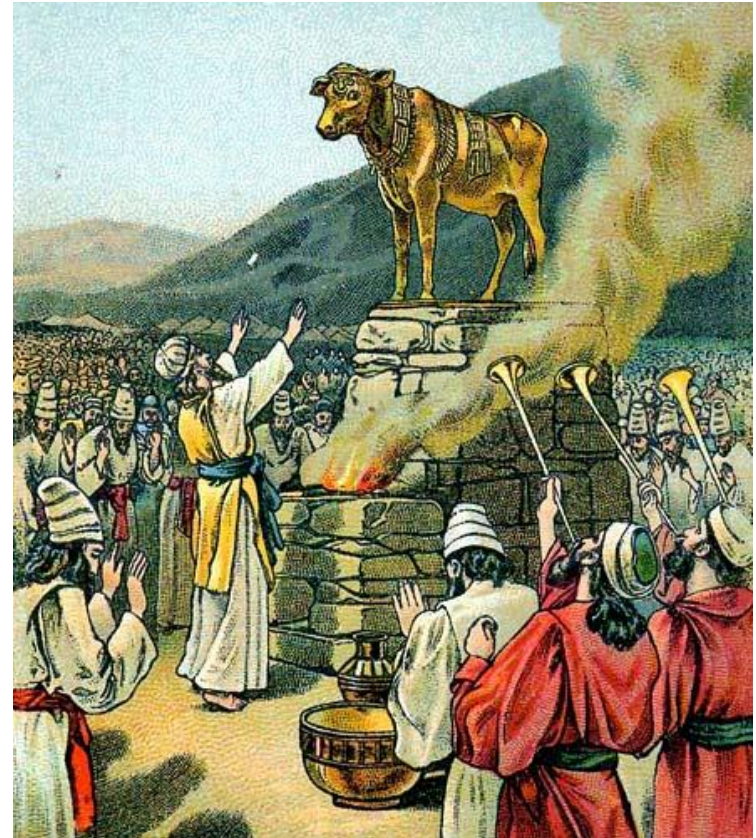
» 6 † Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; **and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink.** And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

6/14 Provocations – *The Golden Calf*

Exodus 32:7-8

» 7 † And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves:

» 8 † They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: **they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.**



This is the first time Moses intercedes for the people.

7/14 Provocations – *Complaining about Manna. Moses wants to die.*

Numbers 11:4-6

» 4 † And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, **Who shall give us flesh to eat?**

» 5 † We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick:

» 6 † But now our soul is dried away: **there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes.**

NUMBERS 11:14-15

» 14 † I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me.

» 15 † **And if thou deal thus with me, kill me,** I pray thee, out of hand, if I have found favour in thy sight; **and let me not see my wretchedness.**

8/14 Provocations – Complaining about Moses' leadership. Miriam cursed with leprosy.

Numbers 12:1-2

» 1 † And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

» 2 † And they said, Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it.

This is the second time Moses intercedes for the people.

NUMBERS 12:13-14

» 13 † And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.

» 14 † And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again.

9/14 Provocations – *Preferring to die than face Giants*

Numbers 13:33 – Numbers 14:3

» 32 † And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.

» 33 † And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

» 1 † And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night.

» 2 † And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

» 3 † And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? **were it not better for us to return into Egypt?**

10/14 Provocations – *Let us Make a Captain*

Numbers 14:4-12

» 4 † And they said one to another, **Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.**

» 5 † Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

» 6 † **And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:**

» 7 † And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.

» 8 † If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.

» 9 † Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

» 10 † **But all the congregation bade stone them with stones.** And the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel.

This is the third time Moses intercedes for the people.

» 8 † Harden not your hearts, **as in the provocation**, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

» 9 † **When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.**

» 10 † Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways.

» 11 † So I sware in my wrath, **They shall not enter into my rest.**)

- 75% of pastors report being “*extremely stressed*” or “*highly stressed*”
- 90% work between 55 to 75 hours per week
- 90% feel fatigued and worn out every week
- 40% report a serious conflict with a parishioner at least once a month
- 91% have experienced some form of burnout in ministry and 18% say they are “fried to a crisp right now”

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- 70% of pastors say *they have a lower self-esteem now than when they entered ministry*
- 70% *constantly fight depression*
- 50% feel so discouraged that they would leave their ministry if they could, but can't find another job
- 80% believe their pastoral ministry has negatively affected their families and 33% said it was an *outright hazard*
- 80% of ministry spouses feel left out and unappreciated in their church
- 77% feel they do not have a good marriage
- 65% feel their family is in a glass house

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They got weary, every time they'd get to a place where a showdown come. Then what would they do? **They would fly loose, and get weary, and want to turn back, and, "Why did this happen to me?"**

29 Strange thing, this morning, after preaching that just as hard as I could, there was many came to the altar and questioned It, **"Why does this happen to me?"** You see how It goes? It goes over the top of the people's head. It's just the same, people.

30 Jesus said, "You have eyes, but you can't see." He said that to the disciples.

31 They said, "Lo, now Thou speakest plainly. Now we believe. No man has to tell You anything, 'cause God shows it to You."

32 He said, **"Do you now believe, after all this time?" See?**

33 **You mustn't question anything, to God.** "For the footsteps of the righteous is ordered of the Lord." **And every trial is put upon you, to prove you. And the Bible said, "They're more precious to you than gold."** So if God let a few light afflictions happen to you, remember, it's for the correction of you.

11/14 Provocations – *Rebellion Against Moses*

Numbers 16:1-3

» 1 † Now **Korah**, the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and **Dathan** and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On, the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men:

» 2 † *And they rose up before Moses*, with certain of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty princes of the assembly, *famous in the congregation, men of renown:*

» 3 † And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, **Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves** above the congregation of the LORD?

NUMBERS 16:32

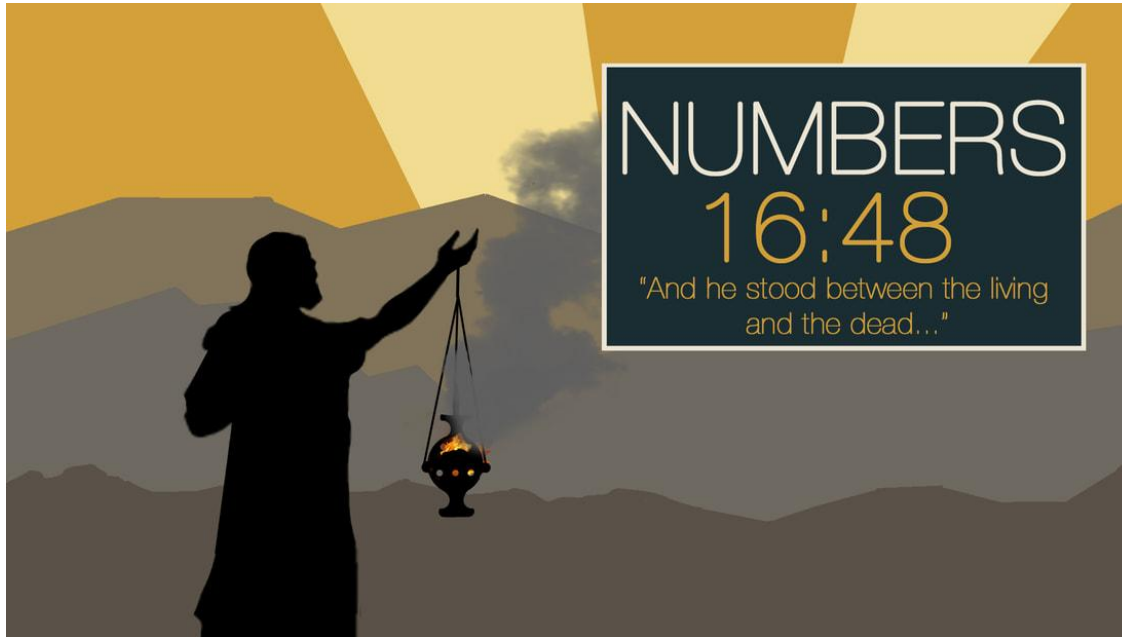
32 † And **the earth opened her mouth**, and swallowed them up, and their houses, **and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods.**

This is the fourth time Moses intercedes for the people.

NUMBERS 16:41

» 41 † *But on the morrow all the congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron, saying, Ye have killed the people of the LORD.*

This is the fifth time Moses intercedes for the people.



NUMBERS

16:48

"And he stood between the living
and the dead..."

13/14 Provocations – *More Complaining about Water*

Numbers 20:1-4

» 1 † Then came the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, into the desert of Zin in the first month: and the people abode in Kadesh; and Miriam died there, and was buried there.

» 2 † And there was no water for the congregation: and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.

» 3 † And the people chode with Moses, and spake, saying, Would God that we had died when our brethren died before the LORD!

» 4 † And why have ye brought up the congregation of the LORD into this wilderness, that we and our cattle should die there?



Hear now, ye rebels;
must we fetch you water out of this rock?

14/14 Provocations – *Loathing the Light Bread*

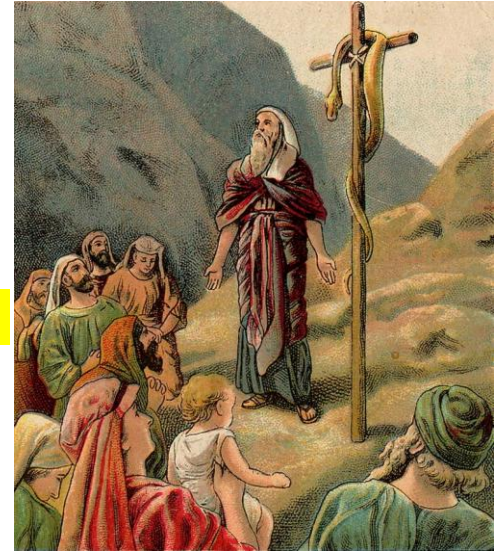
Numbers 21:4-5

» 4 † And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.

» 5 † And the people spake against God, and against Moses, **Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.**

» 6 † **And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.**

» 7 † Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.



Hebrews 3:8-13

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» 11 † So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.)

» 12 † Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

» 13 † But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

HEBREWS 3:14-19

» 14 † For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end;

» 15 † While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, **harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.**

» 16 † For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.

» 17 † But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness?

» 18 † And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not?

» 19 † So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

64-1221 WHY.IT.HAD.TO.BE.SHEPHERD_ TUCSON.AZ V-6 N-15
MONDAY_

148 Now, to all that... all as we know Israel, did not receive the prophet-shepherd's Word, **all of Israel didn't receive It.** Now, notice, they was complaining. "Oh," when he was performing the miracles, "he was a great fellow," but when it come to his Message, "that was different." All great signs follows a new message coming. We know that. In the wilderness they complained, in the wilderness, and died by the thousands. **Frankly, there wasn't only two of them that ever went through that was saved out of a two and a half million, two out of two and a half million.**

149 **You say, "That... What happened to them?" They're Eternally gone.**

150 **"All of them, Brother Branham?" Jesus said so.**

151 They said, "Our fathers eat Manna in the wilderness, and they drank from the Rock."

152 And He... Jesus said, **"And they are, every one, dead," Eternally separated, see, every one.**

63-1110M SOULS.THAT.ARE.IN.PRISON.NOW_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-22 SUNDAY_

« 238 † You remember Hebrews the 6th chapter, "Ones that was once made known the Truth, and refused to walk in It, there is no more repentance for them." See, a borderline believe-... **When the Truth is presented to a person for the last time, and they refuse to receive It;** according to the Book of Hebrews, see, they will... there is not even nothing in the world can ever save them.

239 They are finished. No repentance, no redemption, there is nothing left for them. **They're Eternally separated.** The Bible said so, "Looking for the fearful fire and indignation which shall devour the adversary." **And when Truth of the Gospel has been proven, thoroughly vindicated, and then turn around and walk from It, they're finished. That's all. It's awful, but I have to tell it.**

John 6:47-49

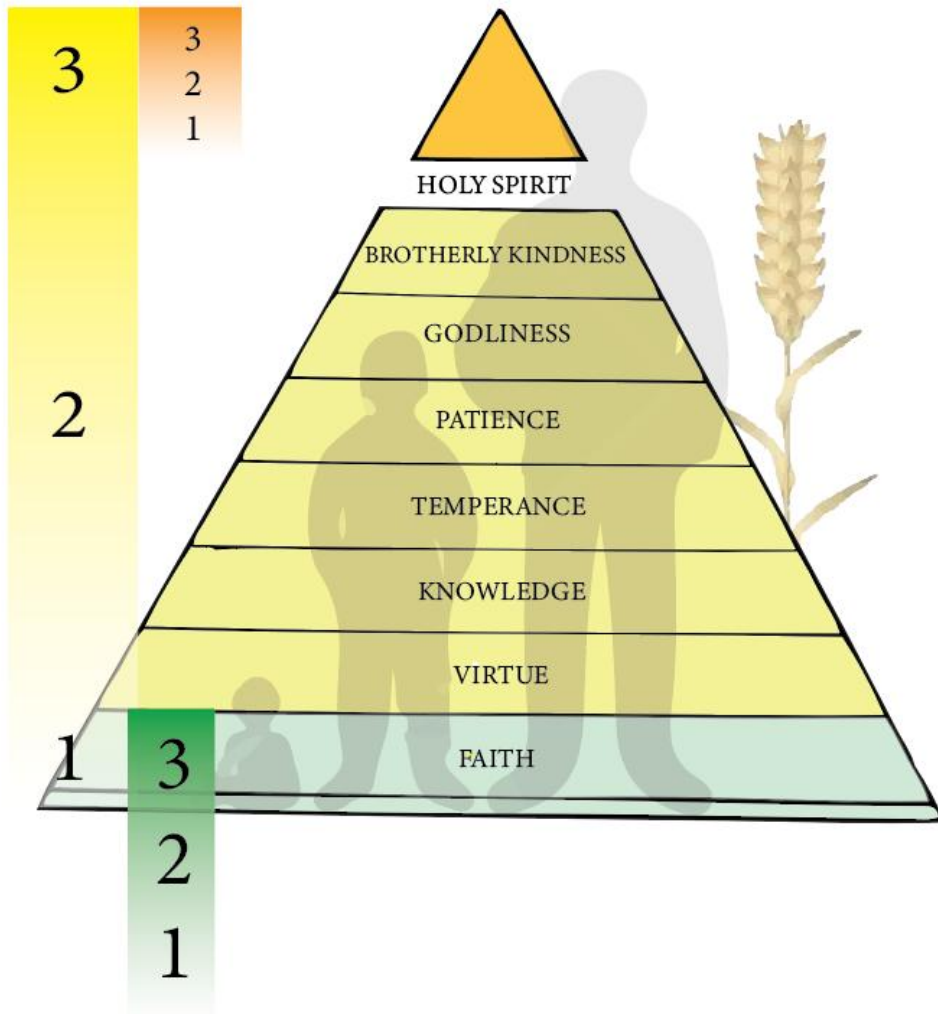
» 47 † Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

» 48 † I am that bread of life.

» 49 † Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.

Genesis 2:17

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.



Hebrews 4:1

» 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.

Sabbath – *to rest*

The Jewish Sabbath (from Hebrew *shavat*, “**to rest**”) is observed throughout the year on the seventh day of the week—Saturday. According to biblical tradition, it commemorates the original seventh day on which God rested after completing the creation.

Rest

- ...to have everlasting rest from all their troubles and all their worries,
- no more taskmasters,
- no more restless nights.
- They were on their way to the promised land of rest.
- It flowed with milk and honey.
- The grapes was so big that two men packed one bunch over their shoulders.

54 Now, the thought is, if we are on our way to the Rest, **what is the Rest?** Where is it? **Is it joining church? Is it being baptized a certain way? Is it becoming a member of the greatest church in the city? Wearing better clothes? Is it education? Is it money, so we can quit work and just lay down, rest the rest of our life, as we call it? That's not it.**

55 Listen what the Bible says it is, and how we get it.

Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us to enter into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

For unto us (the day then) **the gospel was preached**, as well as unto them:...

What is the Gospel? The good news. The good news came to them in Egypt, that, "God has sent a deliverer, and He's going to bring us out and take us to the promised land."

« 56 † **The good news to us now, that, "God has sent a Deliverer, the Holy Ghost, and we're on the road to the promised Land."** Now people has made it creeds and denominations, but God still remains, that, **our Rest is "the Holy Ghost."**

HEBREWS 4:6-11

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

» 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.

Philippians 2:12-13

» 12 † Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling.

» 13 † For **it is God which worketh** in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

II Peter 1:9

» 10 † Wherefore the rather, brethren, **give diligence** to make your calling and election sure: for **if ye do these things**, ye shall never fall:

Isaiah 28:9-13

» 9 † Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

» 10 † For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

» 11 † For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

» 12 † To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

» 13 † But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

Hebrews 4:12-16

» 12 † For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

» 13 † Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

» 14 † Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

» 15 † For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

» 16 † Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.