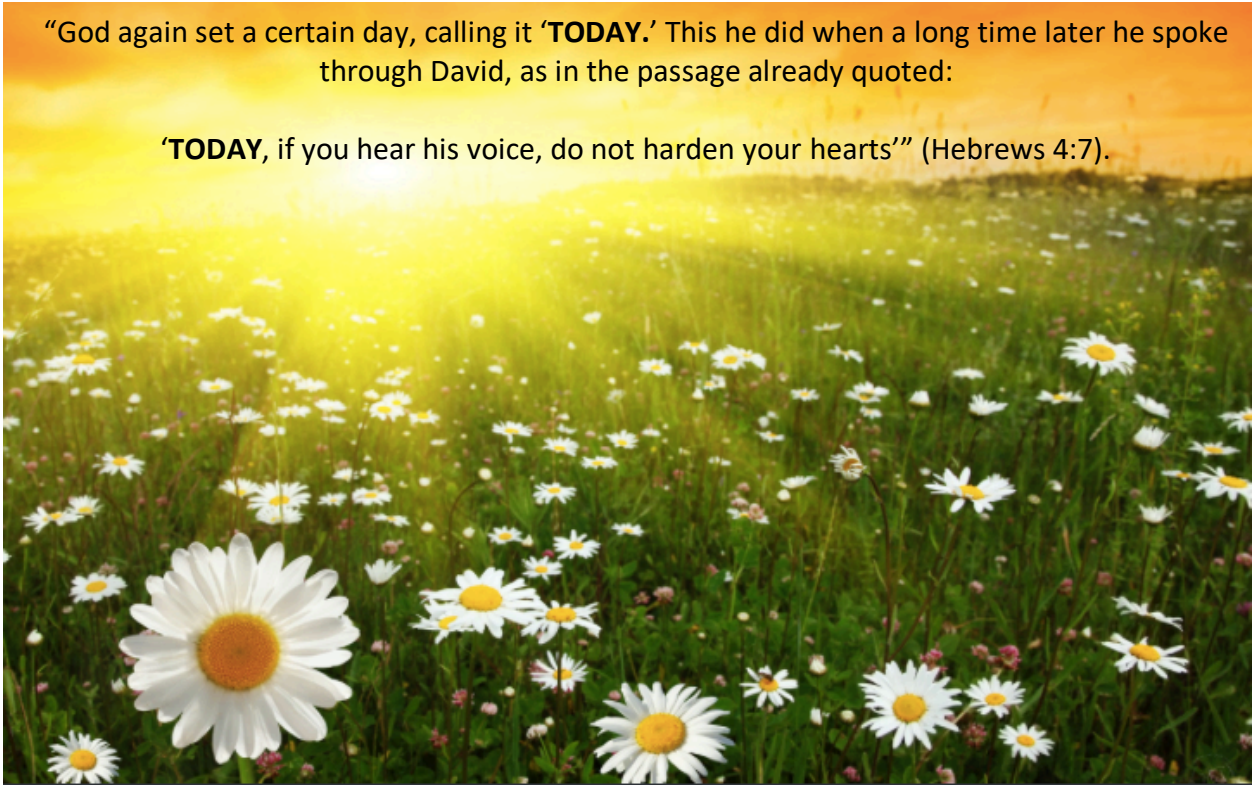


That certain day is **TODAY**

“God again set a certain day, calling it ‘**TODAY.**’ This he did when a long time later he spoke through David, as in the passage already quoted:

‘**TODAY**, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts’” (Hebrews 4:7).



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TODAY, do not harden your hearts.

TODAY, listen and believe.

TODAY, fix your eyes on Christ, the author and perfecter of our faith.

TODAY, come boldly before the throne of grace and receive mercy.

TODAY, distinguish good from evil.

TODAY, put on the full armour of God.

TODAY, stand strong and do not shrink back.

TODAY, earnestly seek God.

TODAY, find and do what pleases God.

TODAY, run the race with perseverance all the way to the end.

TODAY, obey God, so that you will enter into **His rest**.

God fore-knew that many **TODAY** would disobey, so He established a **DAY of REST**. On this rest day—the last day of the seven, God’s people are commanded to stop their work, stop from doing their will and do the will of their Creator by resting with Him, talking with Him, learning from Him.

There is great power in the statement that relinquishes your own will totally to give it all to our Creator. Christ did that. “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet **not my will, but yours be done**” (Luke 22:42). Those who follow Christ wherever he goes, do that too.

GOD’S REST: There remains **another day that is not the seventh day**. It is **today**—a rest for the people of God who believe and overcome (Hebrews 4:9).

GOD’S REST: “And on the **seventh day God rested** from all his work” (Genesis 2:2, Hebrews 4:4). Paul added a thought-provoking statement, “And yet his work has been finished since the creation of the world” (Hebrews 4:3b). How can Paul declare that when God works to this day? God’s creation was perfect the moment He created them, but they sinned creating lots of work for Him.

From the beginning, God planned to bring His creation back into perfection. He had a plan that was formulated long before the creation. Paul stating that “His work was finished” is like saying that “His work, that is, His plan was absolute and unchangeable, even complete because He knows the future.” The bringing of a depraved and desecrated creation back into its original state is the work of God’s hands. The unbelieving Israelites who witnessed God’s power and supremacy but refused to trust in Him are like those who refuse to be molded by the hands of God. Though their names were originally entered into the book of life, they will **not** enter into God’s kingdom.

“Not one of them will ever see the land I promised on oath to their ancestors. No one who has treated me with contempt will ever see it” (Number 14:23).

God foreknew from the creation of the world who will and who will not enter into His eternal kingdom.

GOD’S REST: What mankind does not fully understand is that this rest is no ordinary rest; it is special. So, “**Make every effort to enter into God’s rest**” (Hebrews 4:10).

GOD’S REST: The rebellious will never enter into God’s rest. “Therefore, I was angry with that generation, and I said, ‘Their hearts always go astray, and they have not known My ways.’ **So I swore on oath in My anger, ‘They shall never enter My rest.’** See to it, brothers, that none of you has a wicked heart of unbelief that turns away from the living God” (Hebrews 3:10-12).



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“Say to them, ‘As I live, declares the Lord, what you have said in my hearing I will do to you: your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness, and of all your number, listed in the census from twenty years old and upward, **who have grumbled against me, not one shall come into the land where I swore that I would make you dwell**, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun. But your little ones, who you said would become a prey, I will bring in, and they shall know **the land that you have rejected**... you shall know my displeasure.’ I, the Lord, have spoken” (Numbers 14:28-35).

GOD’S REST IS MORE: It is more than the Promised Land. **God offers His eternal rest to us today.** “Therefore, 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” (Hebrews 4:1).

So, **TODAY**, do not harden your heart to the word of God. Obey God in everything. **Believe**, hold dear your hope of salvation, your resurrection into sons of God, and stand strong wearing the full armour of God for protection against the enemy—those evil rulers and authorities in heavenly places (Ephesians 6:12).

GOD’S REST IS MORE: This special rest is more than God’s eternal kingdom to come, but it goes beyond all that you can image. It is His sanctuary—that holy, intimate place where **you come before Him in a state of peaceful perfection—not in opposition, but in total harmony with Him**, the Majesty of all Life: face-to-face, hiding nothing, humble and grateful for His mercy and He will embrace you with tears of joy.

There you rest completely and eternally from your previous work—the works of the flesh: “And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evils; they disobey their parents; they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless” (Romans 1:28-31).

“So, don't be afraid, little flock. For it gives **your Father great happiness to give you the Kingdom**” (Luke 12:32) and it is His great joy **to share His time with you**, His undivided attention. On God’s Rest, you have His full attention; He loves you. Remember, “**For God so loved the world, that he gave his only [heir] Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life**” (John 3:16).

This rest is offered to mankind **today** because Christ paid the penalty. The offer is absolute and not dependent any more on the hope of payment.

THE NEW COVENANT INTO GOD’S REST: The old covenant is not yet obsolete but aging. Soon, all of the people of Israel, in this 21st century, will know the LORD and **willingly** obey His commandments. This is a future time of rest. **AFTER THAT TIME**, God will make a new covenant with the houses of Israel and Judah.

“This is the covenant I will establish with the people of Israel **after that time**, declares the Lord. **I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.** No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because **they will all know me**, from the least of them to the greatest. For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more. By calling this covenant ‘new,’ he has made the first one obsolete; and **what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear**” (Hebrews 8:10-13).

KEEP THE SABBATH INTO GOD’S REST: Put your own work aside after six days, as God puts aside His work and rest with Him as a reminder of **today**—the acceptance God’s grace. Enter daily into that rest, by submitting to God’s commands, as He submits to His own laws. The Sabbath pictures the Millennium, after the six-thousand-year rule of man. No more rebellion and wicked ways. God’s creation on the seventh day will submit to Him and He will rest from battling against them and they against Him in doing what seems right in **their own eyes**.

“For anyone who enters **God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his.** Let us, therefore, **make every effort to enter that rest**, so that **no one will FALL BY FOLLOWING THEIR EXAMPLE OF DISOBEDIENCE**” (Hebrews 4:10–11).



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FAITH TAKES YOU INTO GOD’S REST: Believe that He lives and accept His gift of grace through the sacrifice of Christ, His Son and only Heir. Trust Him and love Him with all your heart, mind, soul and strength, for in a short time from now, you will stand, face-to-face, before the Almighty God no longer a rebel but a willing and grateful servant. Don’t delay, obey God **today**.

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich