

## Sermon Notes

### *There Is No Reason to Turn Back!* *An Exposition of the Book of Hebrews*

#12 – “Fear of Drifting Is Not a Bad Thing” – Hebrews 4:1-5

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Views of history

1. Various views and some want to rewrite it.

##### B. The Hebrews’ writer’s view is distinctive.

1. We have been studying one long homily which continues through Chapter 4.
  - a. The focal point is the historical account of Psalm 95.
  - b. Key Point – “Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts” (Ps. 95:7 quoted in Heb. 3:15).
2. Note the backstory in use.
  - a. The test of God revealed the failure of Israel.
  - b. Our trials are similar to theirs.

##### C. The Text: Hebrews 4:1-5

#### II. Exposition

##### A. Hebrews 4:1

1. “Let us fear” or “Let us be afraid.”
  - a. This fear checks self-confidence.
2. “Anyone of you should seem to have come short of it.”
  - a. An athletic metaphor
  - b. Perseverance is intrinsic to the Christian walk.
  - c. Hebrews 3:13

##### B. Hebrews 4:2

1. “It was not united by faith in those who heard it.”
2. Matthew 7:22-23
  - a. No uniting with faith

b. “United” means “co-mingled”

#### 3. Review of Reformed theological understanding of faith

- a. *Noticia* -- \_\_\_\_\_
- b. *Assensue* -- \_\_\_\_\_
- c. *Fiducia* -- \_\_\_\_\_

#### C. Hebrews 4:3-5

##### 1. Verses 4-5

- a. Unbelieving Jews would not enter His rest.
- b. Genesis 2:2
- c. “Rest” is the offer of Himself.

##### 2. God’s labor

- a. God labored for six days and rested on the seventh which is perpetual.
- b. The Sabbath day does not end.
  1. Note contrast with King Herod.
  2. Isaiah 46:9-10
- c. The only way to enter this rest is to enter a S\_\_\_\_\_ R\_\_\_\_\_ with God.

#### III. Points for Reflection

- A. “Let us fear if...” any of you should seem to have come short of it.”
  1. Ezekiel 34:2b-4
- B. To know you are saved and held secure by God, makes for peaceful nights of rest and sleep.
  1. Matt. 11:28-30; Heb. 10:32-34; John 16:33
- C. Sabbath rest and the salvation rest is in Christ.
- D. To all who hear but do not believe, regardless of anything else they do, God says, “As I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter my rest.’” (Heb. 4:3).