

The Soul at Rest: *Let Us Hold Fast*

Hebrews 4:12-14

Our subject has been “The Soul at Rest” as we seek to discover how to have a heart at peace. The Word of God in our text is Jesus Christ. Christ is the Word, of whom all the written word speaks (Luke 24:27; 44-47). The Word of God (Jesus Christ) can bring you to a place of soul rest. How?

I. There is a vivid description of the person of Jesus Christ (v. 12).

This verse is usually applied to the written Word of God, but the context is all about Jesus.

Jesus Christ is living. – “*The Word of God is living*” (KJV: quick)

He speaks to you now, not from the grave. He is the living Word who speaks words of life.

The KJV word ‘quick’ is an old English word that means “alive” or living. The Bible is a living Book too, for the words are from our living Redeemer (1 Peter 1:23-25; James 1:18).

Jesus Christ is captivating – “*and active*” (KJV: powerful)

He brings conviction and conversion. “*Why do you kick against the goads?*” (Acts 26:14).

Jesus Christ is cutting – “*and sharper than any two-edged sword.*”

The Word is all edge. He has no blunt side. He is alive all over. He wounds, in one way or another, all who touch Him. The good news brings either healing or death (II Cor. 2:14-16).

Jesus Christ is piercing – “*piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit.*”

He knows the heart: “*What is highly esteemed in men is an abomination to God*” (Luke 16:15).

Jesus Christ is revealing – “*and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*”

Proclaiming Christ, preaching the word, and the work of the Spirit brings about all the above.

William Gurnall wrote, “*There’s not another sword like this in all the world that can cure with cutting; not another arm could use this sword, besides the Spirit of God.*”

II. There is a clear reminder of the position of Jesus Christ (v. 13)

The Word of God, both the physical and written Word, is designed to strip us naked.

“*And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.*” Wait just one moment! This is a statement of all-out omniscience. Nothing is hidden from Him. All things are naked before Him? How do I feel?

Truth be known, *most people find their soul at rest by not being discovered* for who they are.

III. There is a personal application of the priesthood of Christ (v. 14).

Therefore, seeing we have such a high priest, let us hold fast our profession of faith!

This verse helps us see why v. 12 is referring to Jesus Christ and not the written word.

Therefore ... in light of what has just been said.

Seeing we have such a high priest ... the High priest described in vs. 12-13.

Let us hold fast our profession of faith ... Now the question is “what profession of faith?”

Pro- means “before.” *Fess* - means “to declare.” A profession is a declaration before others.

Have you ever declared before others your faith? “*Christ is my cleansing priest!*”

What does a priest do? He is the mediator between God and those He represents. He offers the appropriate sacrifice on behalf of the Deity. You have nothing to offer, but Christ offers Himself. He has died for sinners; for you. It requires faith, audacious faith, to declare this.

Seeing yourself a naked sinner and Christ as Lord of all, *hold fast to your profession of faith.*