

A Christian Is At Rest

Hebrews 4:3, "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."

Now, our faith cannot rest upon nothing. A Christian has to have, his faith has to have a **solid resting place**. You know that, and the only resting place that a Christian, a **true born again Christian can rest his faith**, or hers, is **upon the unmovable Word of God**. It isn't built upon the shifting sands of man's theology and doctrines, and upon some church affiliations. But a true believer, his faith rests solidly, unshifting as he approaches the Word of God.

I preached to my wife in bed till twelve o'clock, just telling her of **how glorious Jesus was**. A text come in my heart. It kept burning me so great till I just couldn't rest with it. And I just said, "Honey, I want to preach to you a little while." And she roused up; by grace she listened.

I said, "**The Christian faith is based solidly upon rest**. That's right. A Christian is not tossed about. A Christian doesn't run from place to place. A Christian doesn't fuss, and fume, and worry about things. **A Christian rests. It's all over. It's all finished for the believer at Calvary (Col. 2:14-15)**. That's right. Oh, sickness may come and disappointments; **but the Christian's at rest** knowing this, that God's able to keep that which He has performed, knowing that no matter what the thing is, or how it looks, there's neither sickness, sorrow, death; there's neither starvation or anything that **can separate us from the love of God that's in Jesus Christ (Rom. 8:38-39)**. We're at rest. Just let the old ship toss any way she wants to; the anchor holds.

I come by a harbor one time and seen that, there was a big old ship there. The sails had been let down, you know. And, oh, what a storm on the sea. My, she was tossing. And I seen that old ship there rocking back and forth, and some waves that would go in, and some waves that would go under, and everything. And I said, "Wonder why that is?"

And a fellow setting said, "It's got a sea anchor on it. Therefore," said, "the ship can't sink." He said, "It can go through the waves, but it can't sink, because it's anchored."

I said, "Oh, praise be to God; **we got an anchor**" (*Heb. 6:19-20*). Some waves we can go over, and some we can go under; but regardless, if the anchor holds... It isn't the ship doing the holding; **it's the anchor doing the holding**. It isn't what I am, or what I will be, or what I was; **it's what He is now, and what He did for me and you**. It ain't what I can do; **it's what He has done**.

My faith doesn't anchor in what the coming meetings will be. **My faith doesn't rest in any ability that I would have**, or upon what church I should join, or what people I should associate with. **My faith anchors and rests entirely upon the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ, already been received** (*John 19:30*).

God justified Him by raising Him from the dead. "*This is My beloved Son in Whom I'm well pleased,*" (*Matt. 17:5*) and God raised Him up from the dead for our justification. No wonder the poet said:

Living He loved me; dying, He saved me;
Buried, He carried my sins far away;
Rising, He justified, freely forever:
Someday He's coming--oh, glorious day."

The Christian rests in that hope upon the stormy seas. Sure, storms rise, **all kinds of troubles, but we're anchored**. That's all. It'll never sink. It can't sink.

What do you have to do? Believe, hear. **Faith cometh by hearing, hearing by the Word** (*Rom. 10:17*); **and believing, and applying, and resting. You see it? The Word says so; hear it. Your heart says so; believe It. And your whole being rests in it. It's finished.**

Faith cometh by hearing. Jesus said the Word, "He that heareth My Word, believeth on Him that sent Me, **hath Eternal, never ending, always existing Life**" (*John 5:24*). Isn't it marvelous? "Ever existing Life, and shall never perish, but hath already passed from death unto Life: has passed from separation on to everlasting Presence." Amen.

When you were an alien from God (*Eph. 2:11-22*), you ceased to be an alien; now you are a child. From death unto Life, from darkness unto day, from mortal to immortal, from corruption to incorruption, from weary unto joy, from death unto Life, **and are resting fully upon THUS SAITH THE LORD**. Not upon feelings, mental emotions, theory, upon some unknown something that somebody has said to you that has no basis,

upon someone say, "Well, you come and join our church, and it'll be finished"; **but upon the Word of God the human soul rests solid.** God said so. That settles it, makes it real.

The heart is the abode of God. And in the Old Testament God dwelt in His glory over the ark; heart is the ark. **God dwells, not in the head; in the heart.** God's not known by theology; God's not known by mental conception; **God's known by an old fashioned, sanctified born again experience that's in the human heart** (*John 3:3-8*).

Yet men and women live a good life, **but the real hiding place is in the heart: hidden with Christ** (*Col. 3:1-4*). And when **Christ the Holy Spirit comes into your heart**, He is in you with your temperament, **and He's living His own Life through His own will through you.** Hallelujah! (*Col. 1:26-28*).

So yielded you are, that Christ speaks the kind of words He'd speak. **He thinks the kind of thoughts He would think, through you. He does the kind of works He would do--through you. You are yielded and resting.**

What a beautiful picture of a consecrated Christian: yielded. **Christ working through.**

Paul said, "*For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain*" (*Phil. 1:21*). "*Not me that liveth any more, but Christ that liveth in me*" (*Gal. 2:19-20*). Christ living in the individual soul--surrendered. **Christ speaks through the lips, and thinks through the mind,** sees through the eye, acts through the temperament. Hallelujah.

Then the things of the world have passed away. **How can it be anything but sweet and pleasant all the time? Christ has got control.** Amen. You see it? That's what it is. It's Christ in you: Christ in you.

You say, "Well, I believe it to be the truth, Brother Branham." That's right. It's in here, but it has to come into your heart. If it is, then your whole makeup is Christ. Your attitude, your desires, your appetite, your everything is Christ: **yielded, resting, everything perfect.** No matter how dull it looks, or how black it looks, still it's the same. **Christ is in you.**

He speaks to the sinner in the voice that He would speak to him in. He speaks to the prostitute in the voice that He would speak to them in. **He thinks through your mind the very thoughts that He speaks to your heart, the very way that He would if He was here on earth.** And you're no more your own, but you're surrendered. [1]

I said when you once come to Christ, once believe Him, once accept Him, **enter into the rest,** all the things of the world seem to die away

(II Cor. 5:17). You've got rest then, **rest to your soul**. And you enter into that state, and there you are. **You're resting then with Christ.** [2]

The Christian experience is based solemnly and wholly upon rest. "Come unto Me all ye that labor and heavy laden, I'll give you rest" (Matt. 11:28-30). We're tossed about with everything until you come to Christ, then it's all finished. **Resting in Christ, perfectly.** No matter what comes or goes, **nothing can touch us without it comes over the Shepherd. He has to permit it** (John 10:1-4). [3]

"Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Amen. Tell me that one man can speak anything contrary to That, and say it's the Word of God. When, "Heavens and earth will pass away, but that Word shall not." (Matt. 24:35).

Faith finds the Word its sanctuary of rest. It moves right up on top that Eternal Rock, **Christ Jesus, the Word, and lays down there and rests.** Let the winds howl. Let the storms shake. He is safe, evermore. He **rests** right there on that Word. **That's where faith, genuine Christian faith, rests. Resting place is the Word,** for it knows that God will ever prove Himself superior, over every one of His enemies. No matter how bad it looks, and how the enemy has come in, **and how it looks like you're defeated, faith still knows.**

Now, to you sick people, oh, how I'd like to drive this home! **When you catch that faith, that you're going to be healed;** every circumstance, everything else, all signs, **all symptoms can point that you are dying, you'll never move! Its resting place is in the sanctuary of God's Word,** when faith, genuine faith sets itself there. Not make-believe now; faith. Not hope; **but faith.** Hope is out here, hoping it was in. **Faith is already in, looking out, and saying, "It's done."** See? That's faith. There is where faith takes its **resting place,** for it knows that God will never, never let the enemy ride over the top of him. He never has. Faith knows that, so, regardless of what the thing looked.

Noah knowed that ark would float. See? Certainly did.

Daniel knowed that God could close the lions' mouth.

The Hebrew children know that God could stop the fire. [4]

Just come to Him and rest. If He's Jehovah-jireh, **rest** on it. If He's Jehovah-rapha, **rest** on it. If He's the Lord that saves us by grace, **rest** on it. If He's the Lord Who heals us by grace, **rest** on it. If He's the God that's coming from heaven with ten thousands of His saints, **rest** on it. If the

dead in Christ shall rise first, **rest** on it. Everything, **rest**. Oh, my. I feel pretty religious right now. **Oh, resting**, not jumping about from pillar to post **and carried about with every wind of doctrine, but resting on what God said.** [5]

Here is the great miracle: the miracle was of how God had His believing child tucked away **in the ark of safety**. All the time the thunder was going on, the rain was falling, **Noah was resting in the ark of God, predestinated, foreordained to walk into that ark. When the plagues were falling, Noah was at rest in safety.** Who had been laughed at, **had then entered into the rest** (*Gen. 6:8-22; 7:1-18*).

Those who they laugh and make fun of today because **you desire to live a full surrendered life to the Lord Jesus**; they don't realize is you are tucked away under His everlasting arms. **Don't realize that you are resting just as safely as you can be in the omnipotence and nothing can harm you** (*Psalms 27:5*).

The water began to come and the people began to scream, and cry, and holler, and carry on. And instead of the ark staying there, it floated right above, all the time packing Noah and cradling him along in the waves. Sure, it was a signpost. God swept the world clean of sin. **He was going to start a new one.** The signs and wonders appearing before He did it. [6]

Now, that is what I find around most Christian lives. The most people that can profess Christianity, they seem to have such a hard struggling time to hold on. I believe it's because **of a lack of correct teaching of the Bible. There's no such a thing as holding on. He done the holding on. The whole Christian principle is based upon rest.** "*Come unto Me all ye that labor and heavy laden. I will give you rest.*" **Don't have to worry and struggle. You're just resting; that's all. Given rest, you enter in peace**, that the whole thing is finished. "Them who He has called, He has justified. Those who He has justified, He has already glorified" (*Rom. 8:30*).

Notice. It's nothing that you do, or what you can do. It's what God has done for you in Christ.

Someone said, "Well, I'll tell you, I just quit this, and I went to seeking God."

No man never sought God. Man don't seek God (*Rom. 3:10-12*); **God seeks man** (*Rom. 10:20*). The very beginning at the garden of Eden, proved it. Adam ought to have been running through the garden, hollering, "Father, Father, where are You?"

But it was God going through the garden of Eden, saying, "Adam, Adam, where art thou?" And Adam hiding, that's the nature of man (*Gen. 3:8-10*). [7]

And there's always been an ark in God's economy. There was an ark in the days of Noah, for the saving of His people. There was an ark in the days of the law, ark of testimony. In the days of the law, they followed the ark.

And there is a third dispensation now; like Noah's time, Lot's time, and now this time. **There is an ark now.** And that ark is not a denomination, **neither is it good works that you do.** "It's by one Spirit," (*I Cor. 12:13*), "we are all baptized into one Body, in the domain of that Kingdom, one Spiritual baptism." No matter how good, how bad, whatever, **you're in that Kingdom by Holy Ghost baptism.** See? That's the only way you overcome. **It's all that is under the shed Blood is overcomers** (*Rev. 12:11*), 'cause you cannot overcome, yourself. **It's He that overcome for you** (*Rom. 8:37*). **You're resting.**

"How will I know then, that I'm in There?" **Watch what kind of a life you're living.** Just look around. **See if it's just lived out of you, automatically. Or, you have to strain and pull, see, then you're doing it.** But don't try to do it. [8]

Reference:

[1] "Why Are People So Tossed About" (56-0101), pg. 9-10, 14, 17-18

[2] "Inspiration" (56-0128), par. E-45

[3] "Fellowship" (56-0212), par. E-31

[4] "The Third Exodus" (63-0630M), par. 203-205

[5] "Faith" (56-0427), par. E-25

[6] "The Junction of Time" (56-0115), par. E-18

[7] "The Inter Veil" (56-0121), par. E-20-21

[8] "How Can I Overcome" (63-0825M), par. 68-69

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www.biblebelievers.de, Fax: (+49) 72 35 33 06

There's coming one with a Message that's straight on the Bible, and quick work will circle the earth. The seeds will go in newspapers, reading material, until every predestinated Seed of God has heard It.

[Bro. Branham in „Conduct-Order-Doctrine“, page 724]