



becoming united in leadership disciplines

Saturday, February 28, 2009

## **D1 – the heart. Hebrews 4:12**

**The major theme of chapter 3 and 4: the \_\_\_\_\_ 'rest' of God.**

- 'My rest': 3:11, 18, (19); 4:1, 3, 4, 5, (6), 8, 9, 10, 11

### **1. Observations of the context prior to 4:12 which confirm this salvation theme:**

- Key parts of the salvation rest of God:
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ and God's \_\_\_\_\_. 3:7, 10, 12, 15; 4:2, 7, (12)
  - God's \_\_\_\_\_ focused on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ living. 3:8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18; 4:3, 6, 7, 11
  - \_\_\_\_\_, or lack thereof. 3:12, 19; 4:2, 3
  - \_\_\_\_\_. 3:12, 13, 14; 4:1, 11

### **2. Observations of the verse immediately following 4:12 (4:13):**

Q: How does this verse fit the salvation theme in chapters 3 and 4?

Q: How would you describe the sum of the observations (and meaning) of the surrounding context for 4:12?

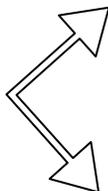
**Q: What has God given to help us discern the reality of His salvation rest (4:12)?**

### **3. Observation and interpretation (meaning) of 4:12**

- 'The word of God' =

➤ How we should view the word of God:

- **Living** =
- **Active** =
- **Sharper than any two-edged sword** =
- **Piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow** =
- **Able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart** =



- Summarizing the whole description of God's word =

Q: Again, how does 4:12 fit into the broader salvation theme of chapters 3 and 4?

#### **4. The importance of 4:14-16 (and 3:1-6):**

Q: Why has the author written what he has here at this point (4:14-16)?

#### **5. Application of 4:12 and its surrounding context (see homework):**

- 1. What has been revealed to me about God Himself in this passage that should influence my thinking about God? (How will my worship of, prayer to, love for Him be impacted?)**
- 2. How should my 'approach' to God's word be influenced by this passage? (Attitudes, motives, etc. for coming to the word)**
- 3. How should my interaction with my brothers and sisters in Christ (who are prone to sin as I am) be influenced by this passage?**
- 4. How should my mission to the lost around me be influenced by this passage?**
- 5. How does this help you understand what discipline 1 (the heart) is all about in BUILD?**

Although I can display competence  
in a variety of areas,  
this is never so in respect to discerning my sin.  
On my own, I will never develop  
a competency for recognizing my sin.  
Help me today to not forget  
that others see what I do not.  
Where I'm blind to sin,  
their vision is often 20-20.  
And by Your grace they can impart  
clarity to help protect me  
from the hardening effects of sin.  
I need others today to exhort me,  
encourage me, and correct me.  
They are Your gift to me in my battle against sin.  
And I will never grow out of this need.  
Never.  
C.J. Mahaney, Humility, p 111-112 (personalized)