

Treasure Hunt

- What does “if they shall enter ...” (4:3, 4) mean, and why?
- How can the curse of Psa 95:11 be considered a “promise” (4:1)?
- How does this promise contrast with Gen 2:2?
- (Ben) Did Joshua give Israel rest, or didn't he?
- What is the difference between “rest” in v. 9 and elsewhere in this section?
- (Nate) Whom does v. 10 describe?
- What three stages are there in the occupation of God's rest?
- Why does the writer compare the word of God with a sword in 4:12?
- What “word of God” does he have in mind?
- What does this passage teach us about the proper use of the Word of God?

Structure of 3:1-4:13

Epistle to the Hebrews

1:1-10:25, The Person and Work of the Son
1:1-4, Introduction

1:5-2:18, His Person: the Son & the Angels
1:1-14, **Higher** than the Angels
2:1-4, **Warning**: Neglect
2:5-18, **Lower** than the Angels

3:1-10:25, His Work: the Son & the Priests
3:1-6 A **Faithful** High Priest
3:7-4:13 **Warning**: Unbelief
4:14-10:25, A **Merciful** High Priest

10:26-13:19, The Life of the Sons
10:26-31, **Warning**: Willful Sin
10:32-12:24, The Believer's Attitude
12:25-29, **Warning**: Refusing God
13:1-19, Exhortation: Life in Community

13:20-25, Epistolary Close

3:1-4:13, Exhortation to Faithfulness

3:1-6, Positive Exhortation
1 "Brethren, ... consider"
1-6a, The Son greater than Moses
6b, **Warning** of our relation to him

3:7-11, **Warning** from the **Word** (Ps 95b)

3:12-4:11, **Exposition** of Ps 95b
12 "Take heed, brethren"
3:12-19, Diagnosis: Unbelief
4:1-11, Promise: Rest

4:12-13, Power of the **Word** (Ps 95b)



The Rest

God's Rest



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:12_Tribes_of_Israel_Map.svg

<https://artlevin.com/product/pilgrimage-to-the-second-jerusalem-temple/>



The Sanctuary as Eden

- Cherubim on the veil Ex 26:1, 31
- Adam “worked and guarded” the garden Num 3:7-8; 8:26; 18:7
- Menorah (almond tree) Ex 25:31,33
- Pomegranates on High Priest’s robe Ex 28:33
- Solomon decorated interior of temple with carved palm trees 1 Ki 6:29

References on Heb 4:1-3

4:1 **Let us therefore fear, lest**, a promise being left us of **entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short** of it.

4:11 **Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall** after the same example of unbelief.

4:3 “if they shall enter ... “

Same words as 3:11 “they shall not enter”

Oath as conditional self-curse:

2Sam. 3:35 David sware, saying, So do God to me, and more also, **if I taste bread**, or ought else, till the sun be down. (= I shall not taste bread ...)

Similarly, “if not” is a strong promise:

2Sam. 19:13 God do so to me, and more also, **if thou be not captain** of the host before me continually in the room of Joab. (= thou shalt be captain ...)

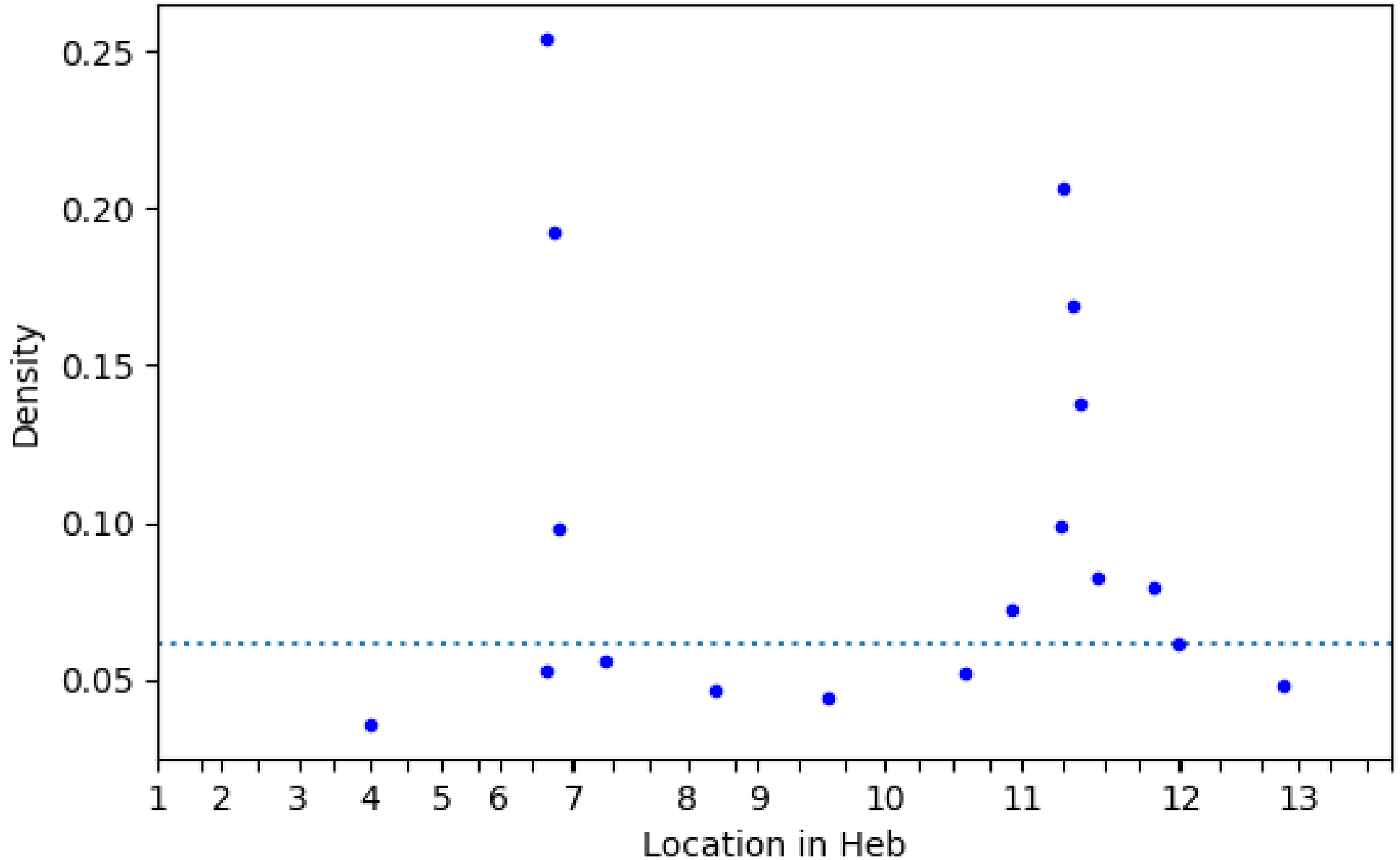
2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them:

Num. 14:8 If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. 9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

Psa. 95:9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my **work ἔργον**. ... 11 Unto whom I sware in my wrath that they should not enter into **my rest κατάπαυσις**.

Gen. 2:2 And on the seventh day God ended his **work ἔργον** which he had made; and **he rested κατάπαύω** on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

“Promise” in Hebrews



References on Heb 4:1-11

8 For if Jesus had given them rest,
Josh. 21:44 And the LORD **gave them rest round about**,
according to all that he sware unto
their fathers:

Josh. 22:4 And now the LORD
your God **hath given rest** unto
your brethren, as he promised
them:

Josh. 23:1 And it came to pass a
long time after that the LORD **had given rest unto Israel** from all
their enemies round about, that
Joshua waxed old and stricken in
age.

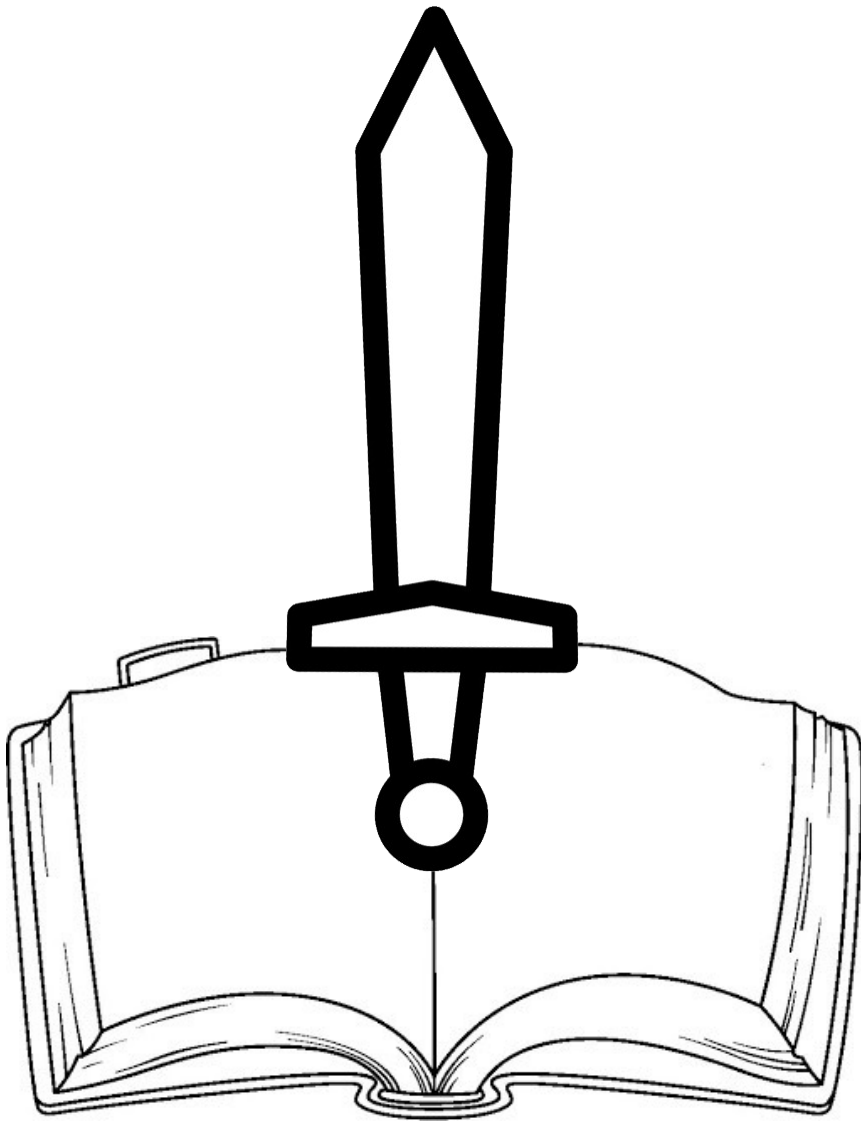
9 There remaineth therefore a rest
[sabbath-keeping] to the people of
God.

Is. 58:13 If thou turn away thy foot
from the sabbath, from doing thy
pleasure on my holy day; and **call the sabbath a delight**, the holy of
the LORD, honourable;

Ps 42:4 for I had gone with the
multitude, I went with them to the
house of God, **with the voice of joy and praise**, with a multitude that
kept holyday.

Heb 12:22 But ye are come ... 23 to
an innumerable company: **angels in festal assembly** ... and the church
of the firstborn

4:12 The word ... sharper than sword



clipartbarn.com (book), clipartimage.com (sword)

Num. 14:3 And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the **sword**, that our wives and our children should be a prey?

Num. 14:23 Surely they shall not see (= if they shall see) the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

Num 14:43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the **sword**: because ye are turned away from the LORD, therefore the LORD will not be with you.