



Daily Verse and Comment

Hebrews 4:1-2

(1) Therefore, we should fear, lest perhaps, a promise being open to enter into His rest, any of you might seem to come short. (2) For truly, we have had the gospel preached *to us*, even as they also *did*; but the preaching of the word did not profit them because it was not mixed with faith in those who heard.

A Faithful Version

Perhaps the hardest thing for us to do is to keep on track spiritually. Deviating from the path to God's Kingdom is not that difficult, making it a constant peril. God's experience with Israel demonstrates that an entire generation died in the wilderness, a stunning witness! A review of the Israelites' conduct shows that, though they initially promised to obey all [God](#) commanded, their [faith](#) wavered over time, and they chose not to go into the Promised Land.

What a powerful warning this is to us, who have our eyes open and take God's Word seriously! One can make a case from the New Testament that many of us will not enter God's Kingdom because, like Israel, we will fritter away our chance. Does not [Jesus](#) warn that only those who endure to the end will be saved ([Matthew 24:13](#))? Does not Peter warn that even the righteous are scarcely saved ([I Peter 4:18](#))? Does not Jesus also warn that the broad way leads to destruction and many take it ([Matthew 7:13](#))?

Rather than frighten us, this should stir us to push on! God has not left us alone. He who releases us from our bondage and sets us on the path to His Kingdom also empowers us to make it. He gives us gifts ([I Corinthians 12:1-11](#)) and access to Him to receive help in time of need ([Romans 5:1-2](#)). This access, through prayer, is without doubt one of the greatest gifts that He can

give a human being. He allows us into the very presence of the sovereign Creator and Lord of all, in whom is all [wisdom](#), power, and [love](#). He can do far more for us than we can even think to ask.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[The Sovereignty of God: Part Eight](#)

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[Broad Way to Destruction](#)

[Deviating from God's Plan](#)

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