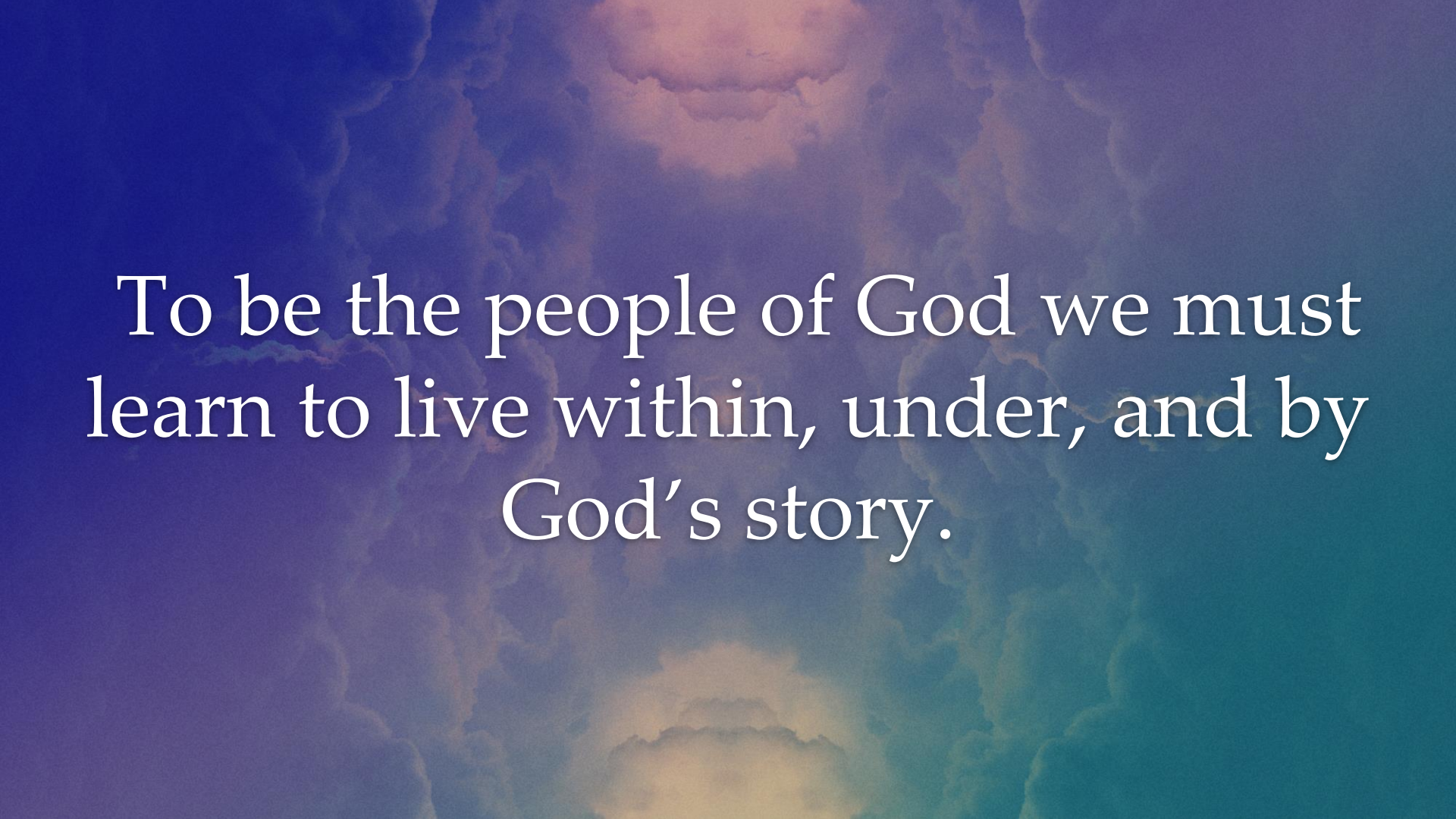




GENESIS

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN



To be the people of God we must
learn to live within, under, and by
God's story.

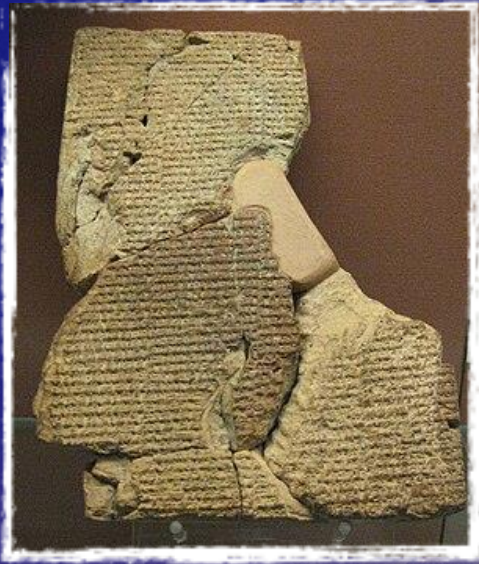


Why are you here, human?

What is the purpose, motivation, or
meaning behind your existence?



The Babylonian *Epic of Atrahasis*



“Create a human being that he bear the yoke. Let man assume the drudgery of the gods!”

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—*New York Times Book Review*

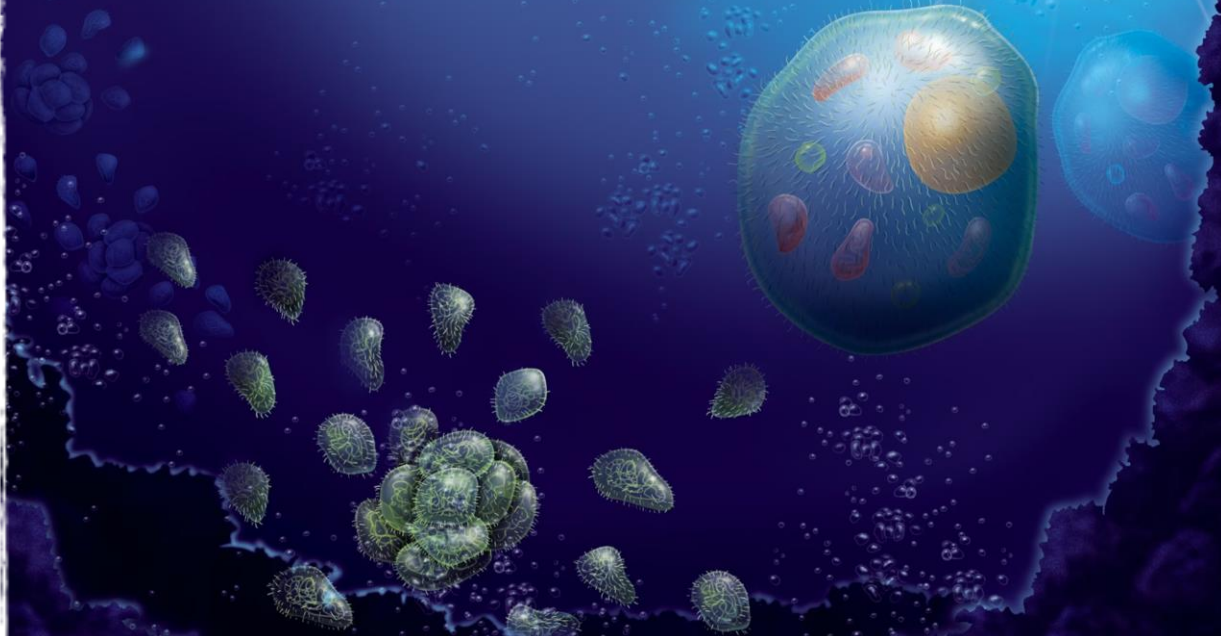


BILL
BRYSON

*A Short History of Nearly Everything

Author of *A Walk in the Woods* and *One Summer*

Our Modern Story



“Man is the product of causes which had no prior vision of the end they were achieving. His origin, his growth, his hopes and fears, his loves and his beliefs, are but the outcome of accidental collocations of atoms... Only on the firm foundation of unyielding despair can the soul's habitation henceforth be safely built.”

(Bertrand Russell)

Genesis 1:26-27 (ESV)

26 Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.



Royal Images



- The royal image serves as a mark of the king's PRESENCE and imbues its BEARER with the king's authority & the responsibility to act on his behalf.

- A royal image bearer stands in special RELATIONSHIP with his king. He must know him intimately, for he is charged to act in ways that accord with his will and character.

We are invited to PARTICIPATE
in God's reign, to bear His image
and extend His wise, just, and
kind rule to every corner of
creation.

Genesis 1:27-28 (ESV)

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 1:29-30 (ESV)

29 And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. 30 And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

Genesis 1:31 (ESV)

31 And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Genesis 2:1-3 (ESV)

1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. 2 And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. 3 So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

“On the seventh day, God rested.”

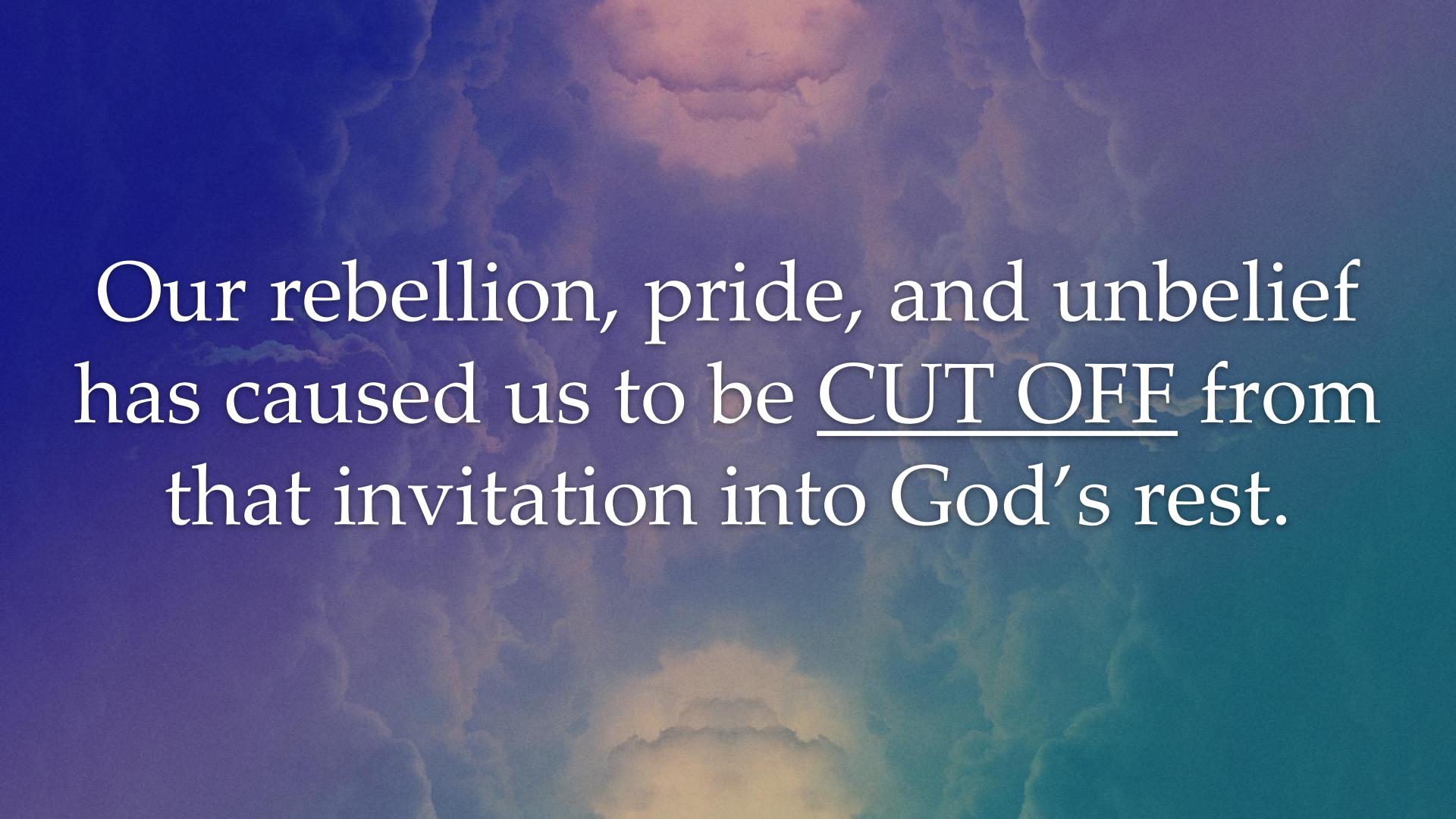




God RESTING on Day 7 is the
ultimate revelation of His why.



On Day 7, God rests in His COSMIC temple, making Himself accessible, AVAILABLE, and knowable to His creation.

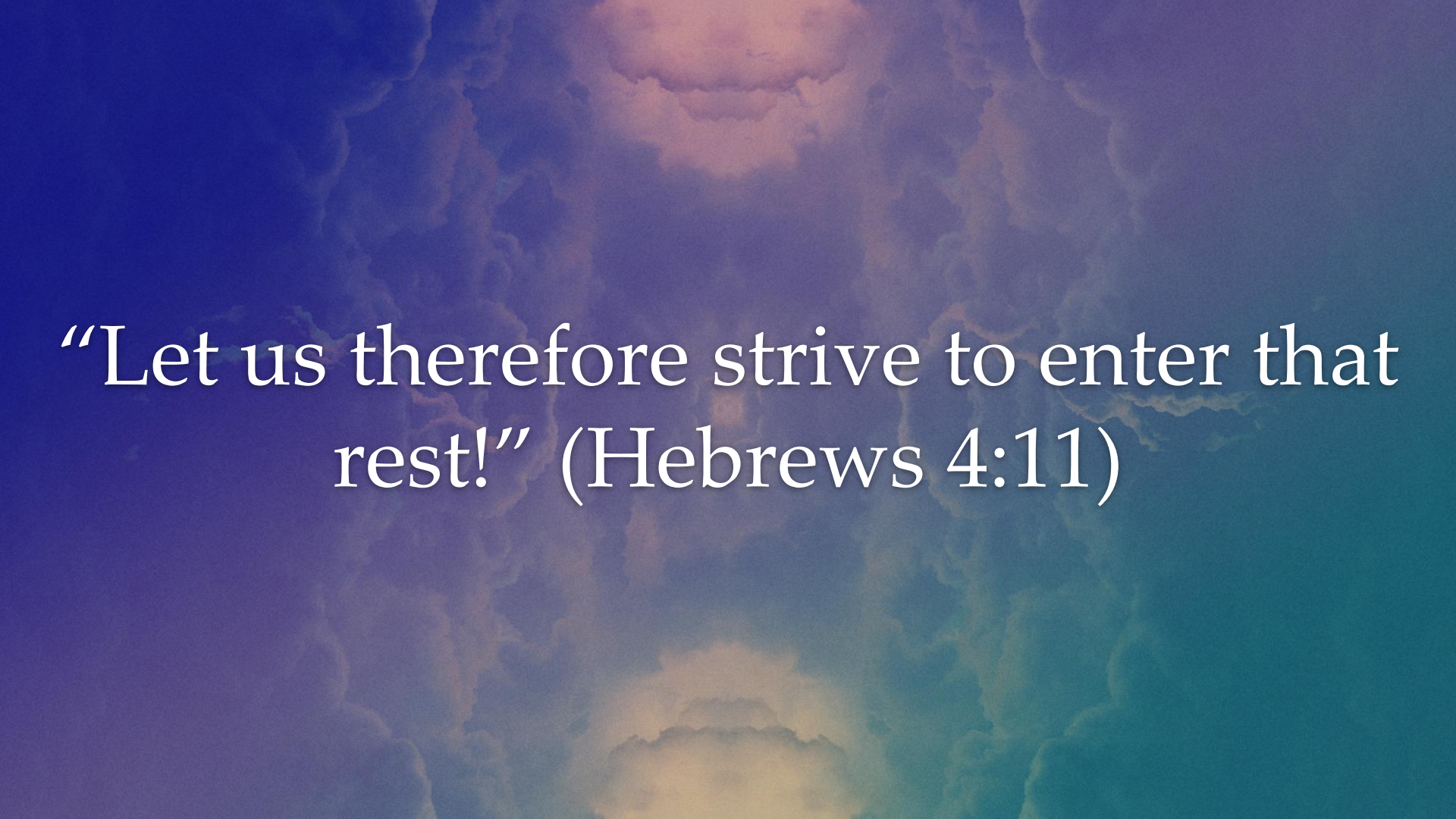


Our rebellion, pride, and unbelief
has caused us to be CUT OFF from
that invitation into God's rest.

““They are a people who who go astray in their heart, and they have not known my ways.’ Therefore, I swore in my wrath, ‘They shall not enter my rest.’” (Psalm 95:10-11)

“Now on the first day week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.” (John 20:1)

With the RESURRECTION of Jesus,
God has begun a new week of
creation! Jesus has made an
unfailing way for us to once again
be welcomed into God's rest — into
an unending relationship with Him!



“Let us therefore strive to enter that rest!” (Hebrews 4:11)

Four Evangelical Views of Creation:

- Young earth creationism
- Old earth creationism
- Evolutionary creationism
- Intelligent design

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FOUR
VIEWS
ON

CREATION, EVOLUTION, AND INTELLIGENT DESIGN



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