

The Danger of Drifting

TEXT- Hebrews 2:1-4

INTRO- We must not return back to the old ways because in Christ we have much more!

We must not forget who Christ is!

He is God incarnate. The Creator of the universe. The Ancient of days

II. The Brightness of His Glory –His radiant splendor

III. This glory is the express image of His divine attributes.

The Alpha and Omega. Emmanuel – God With us.

IV. Upholding All Things - By The Word of His Power

A. His creative commands

B. The purification of sinners

V. He Sat Down On The Right Hand of the Majesty On High

Heb 1:13 *But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?*

VI. Christ Is Superior to the Angels

VII. The Exhortation Heb 2:1-4

The argument continues that Christ is superior to the angels. The chapter is interrupted for an exhortation, the first of five in the book

Hebrews has warnings to believers about:

- negligence (2:1-4),
- disobedience (3:7-19),
- desertion(5:11-6:20),
- rebellion (10:19-39),
- worldliness(12:14-17),
- unwillingness to listen to God(12: 25-29).

✚ Since the Word spoken by angels was steadfast

✚ The Word spoken by God's Son would also be steadfast!

✚ God dealt with those who disobeyed in the OT

✚ He will deal with those who ignored His Word in the last days!

Therefore - Greek "On account of this" - Δια τούτο Dia touto - that is, on account of the exalted dignity and rank of the Messiah as stated in the previous chapter. The sense is: "Since Christ, the author of the new dispensation, is so far exalted above the prophets, and even the angels, we ought to give the more earnest attention to all that has been spoken."

"When E F Hutton talks people listen."

A. Give the more earnest heed

To give heed more abundantly.

A snake in the grass is a pretentious, dangerous person such as a hypocrite, mole, or spy. This idiom draws on the danger of being bitten by an unseen snake in tall grass, likely because it was stepped on or felt threatened.

"Take heed" is a warning to pay attention, similar to "beware" or "be careful." 1 Co 10:12 *Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.*

Because of who is, what He has said and what He has done we should give the utmost heed to Christ.

B. We must be careful not to drift away

The danger here is one of drifting through neglect:

Not "How shall sinners escape if they reject" but

"How shall we [believers] escape if we neglect...."

Spiritual deterioration begins when Christians start to neglect salvation.

From the admonitions in Heb 10:19-25, it seems that these Jews were guilty of neglecting prayer and united fellowship with God's people.

If we miss church for any reason we are on the way to miss for every reason.

Backsliding – drifting – apathy – lukewarm – in a rut VS.

Zealous – on fire – vigilant – faithful – abounding 1 Cor. 15:58

The pastor stated the greatest problem of the church today is apathy and ignorance. A man responded frankly I don't know and I don't care.

A nation can drift.

Institutions can experience drifting.

Denominations also drift.

Marriages can drift. "I don't know what happened, we just drifted apart."

Churches drift.

Believers can drift

The Metaphor in mind seems to be that of allowing the current to carry one away from a fixed point through carelessness and unconcern. Instead of keeping a firm grip on the truth, the person drifts.

C. Judgment of every transgression

The slightest infraction of the Law was sure to be punished. It made no provision for indulgence in sin; it demanded prompt, implicit, and entire obedience.

The word *disobedience* literally means "unwillingness to hear." Saints who will not hear and heed the Word of God are disobedient and will not escape the chastening hand of God. God confirmed His Word through "signs, miracles, and powers" Heb 2:4, Acts 2:22 *Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Acts 2:43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.*

His Word is not to be treated lightly! The word *neglect* is translated “made light of” in **Mat 22:5**.

Parasitic sins – Worm parasite removed from man’s eye.

D. We can’t escape the ramifications of neglect

By neglect of education children grow up in ignorance; by neglect a farm grows up to weeds and briars; by neglect a house goes to decay; by neglect of sowing, a man will have no harvest; by neglect of reaping, the harvest would rot in the fields. No worldly interest can prosper where there is neglect; and why may it not be so in religion?

1 Ti 4:14 *Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.*

The Cost of neglect

Judgment from God – *How shall we escape?*

Happiness is lost

Health can be lost

Friends may be lost

Sinners may remain lost

Our family is affected

There may be financial loss

The Lord’s work is hindered

Return to your first love.

Rev 2:4-5 *Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.*

VIII. An Explanation Heb 2:5-18

CONCL –