

“8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see *him* not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9 Receiving the end of your faith, *even* the salvation of *your* souls. 10 Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace *that should come* unto you: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.” (1Pe 1:8-12 AV)

Introduction

The title of this message comes from Hebrews 2:3. “How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation.” Hebrews said that this great salvation was first spoken by the Lord and confirmed by the apostles with signs and wonders and gifts of the Holy Ghost. The author of Hebrews also confirmed that the words of the prophets were spoken to them by angels and were steadfast and came to pass; how much more shall the words of Christ and the prophets hold firm and sure.

How does it come to pass that people “neglect” this great salvation. Because they treat it lightly, as of little importance. We let them slip, or glide by. Heb. 2:1 Jesus said, we must beware that the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word. So many things can cause us to just glide by the gospel and let it slip away.

So the title is from Heb. 2, but the sermon is from 1Peter 1. READ Let us turn and read. Why is the Gospel to be treated with such honor. Because God has placed such honor and importance upon it, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

This importance is directly stated in 1Peter 1:6-12

I. They were treasured and spoken of by the prophets

A. Here in Peter

1. They minister to us.

2. The end of faith: salvation of soul; your most valued treasure.
3. What does it profit a man....gain the whole world. And lose his soul. More valued than all the silver and gold is the gospel, for it gives what silver and gold cannot: salvation

B. 2Tim 3:14-17

C. 1Peter 1:16-21 transition to modern and false prophets ch. 2

D. Jesus: Luke 24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not. 25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? 27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

E. Every man is a fool until he begins to listen to Scripture; then he knows what a fool he is in himself and he is now prepared to learn. He must become a fool that he might be wise. 1Co 3:18 Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.

II. They are worthy of Inquiry and Search.

A. Even the prophets in the OT searched and made inquiry concerning their own writings. It is the writings that are inspired and infallible; not the men that wrote them. They were men like we are.

B. See Proverbs 2:1-14

III. They are reported by divinely appointed preachers.

A. See 1John 1: the apostles were commissions to teach and to write concerning the Light, Jesus of Nazareth. These writings were inspired of God.

- B. See Titus 1:1-3 See note on "A."
- C. 1Tim. 6:3 words of the Lord Jesus Christ. Preachers are to teach the "words of the Lord Jesus."
- D. 1Tim. 3:15,16 the mystery of godliness is committed to the church.

Conclusion:

- A. All Scripture speaks of Christ. Value ministers that do this. They are Christ' servants to serve your faith. They and their message do not belong to themselves.
- B. All Scripture is to be studied and taught.
- C. All Scripture is to be kept in memory and not neglected.
- D. As David said of himself, it must be said to ourselves: Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might sin against thee. Amen and amen.