

SO GREAT A SALVATION 02.16.09

Hebrews 2:2-2:13

LEST WE DRIFT AWAY



- Practical steps to keep from drifting:
 - Study the written word diligently.
 - 2 Timothy 2:15 – “handling accurately the word (*logos*) of truth”
 - Ephesians 6:17 – “the sword of the Spirit, which is the word (*rhema*) of God



- Memorize the written word.
 - Joshua 1:8; Psalm 119:9-11
- Practice using the written word.
 - Matthew 4 – “it is written”

Hebrews 2:1 – “we must pay *much closer* attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.”

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A. The Great Danger in Ignoring God the Son. (1-4)

- v. 1 – This is the first of five major warnings in Heb. (2:1-4; 3:12-19; 6:4-8; 10:26-31; 12:25-29)
- Each is given to prevent a specific form of unbelief
- Danger #1 – That of drifting away from Truth.
 - John 1:14; 17 – “grace and truth”
 - Truth – John 1:14; 17; 3:21-4; 24-8; 32-14; 6-(Rms 7:24)-17:17
 - “drift away” – (*pararreō*) – drift away, to flow by, slipping away from.
 - Plato – “something slipping away from the memory”
 - Plutarch – “a ring slipping from a finger”
 - A great loss occurring unnoticed
- The cause: not taking seriously the word spoken to them
- Inattention or apathy will always rob us of our treasure!

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- Danger #1 – That of drifting away from Truth.
 - The cause: not taking seriously the word spoken to them
 - Inattention or apathy will always rob us of our treasure!
 - The remedy: 2 Tim 2:15 – be diligent ... handling accurately the word of truth.
 - Consistent and committed reading of the written word will be a constant reminder of this great salvation.
- The proclamation of this great salvation is seen in three ways:
 - Jesus Himself – Mk 1:15 and Mt 13:17
 - Early believers – 1 John 1:3 and 1 Peter 1:16
 - This statement rests the gospel securely on eyewitnesses who recorded accurately what they saw and heard.
 - God Himself
 - The authority from which the gospel flows include all three Persons of the Godhead: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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B. Jesus’ Glory as Risen and Enthroned Man (5-9)

- v. 5 – “the world to come” (*oikoumenē*) – strongly suggests the writer was talking about the kingdom of Jesus on earth.
- Not yet – we don’t see all things subjected to Him.
 - The god of this world is still at work for a little while.
- One of the most important lessons for us to learn is found in v. 9.
 - Life always follows death!
 - John 12:24; 25; 1 Cor 15:36; Rom 6:11
 - The cross in us allows His life to fill us and flow from us to the world around.
 - “The fruit of the Spirit is...” (Gal 5:22,23)
 - God is love (*agape*) – 1 John 4:8

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C. Jesus’ Work as Author of Salvation (10-13)

- “to perfect” (5:9 as well)
 - Jesus had always had a perfect character.
 - “without blemish” – Heb 9:14
 - Perfection in this sense is of *function* not Person.
 - The “perfection” of His work required the whole process of His incarnation, His ministry, His death, and His resurrection.
- Author (*archēgos*) – captain, leader, pioneer.
 - Implies someone who initiates or originates a plan or program for others to follow.
 - The Lewis and Clark expeditions would be a great analogy.
 - “Jesus our *archēgos*, opened up a completely new spiritual country, the realm of universal dominion for the human race, which was originally intended for us but was lost by Adam” (RCS)

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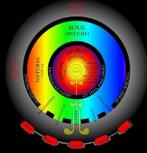
C. Jesus' Work as Author of Salvation (10-13)

- Sanctified (v.11) – “made holy”
 - The act of *making holy* implies the impartation of a new life – the life of God Himself, since only God is holy.
 - 1 Peter 1:13-16 – “be holy, for I am holy”
 - Who could ever be as holy as God?
 - Those who by faith become sons of God are made holy (sanctified) because they share the life of the Son of God.
 - 1 John 5:11-12 – “he who has the Son has life”
 - “Holy” is of the same word root as “whole”
 - God’s desire for us is to be whole in spirit, soul, and body (1 Thess 5:23)

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C. Jesus' Work as Author of Salvation (10-13)

- Sanctified (v.11) – “made holy”
 - “so great a salvation” is the work of God in the death and resurrection of His Son – a work that will make us whole once again by Him being joined to us through faith alone.
 - Whole in spirit (*justification*); whole in soul (mind, will, emotions – *sanctification*); whole in body (*glorification*)



- Holiness of nature is the possession of all true Christians; holiness of behavior is the evidence (Gal 5:22,23).
- Col 3:5-17 – an act of my will.