



25 July 2021

## Hebrews 2:1-4

2 Peter 1:1-11; Romans 2:1-11

### What Is A Disciple?

- ALL Christians are disciples. They are not disciple in name only but they ARE disciples.
- By definition, a Christian is one who follows Christ, abides in His Word, and is an imitator of Christ. (John 10:27-30; 8:31; 1 John 2:6)
- By definition, a Christian **denies** him/herself, picks up his/her cross **daily**, and he/she **follows** Christ. (Luke 9:23)
- By definition, a Christian considers Christ and His Church (His Body) more important than career, family, pleasure, and even themselves. (Luke 14:27-33; Matt 10:37-39; 16:25-26; 22:37; Philippians 3:7-9)
- By definition, a Christian lives their lives to **do** God's will each and every day of their lives. (Matthew 7:21; 12:50; Luke 4:4; 8:21; 11:27-28; Acts 17:30; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; Hebrews 5:9; James 1:21-22; 1 Peter 4:2; 1 John 2:17)
- A disciple of Jesus Christ . . .
  - ★ Has a **DESIRE** to grow and mature in their faith. (Luke 9:23; Heb 8:10-12) He/she has a real desire to please God. (Col 1:10; 1 Thess 4:1; 2 Tim 2:4; Heb 11:5; 1 John 3:22)
  - ★ Has a **DETERMINATION** to achieve his/her desire to grow. He/she makes a plan, commits to that plan, and implements that plan. (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)
  - ★ **DISCIPLINES** him/herself to keep to his/her plan no matter what the obstacles, challenges, troubles, or difficulties. He/she is **determined** to be like Christ and please his/her Father. ((Matthew 10:22; 24:13; Mark 13:13; Romans 12:12; Col 1:11; 23; 2 Timothy 2:12; Hebrews 12:1-2; James 1:12; 1 Cor 9:24-27)
  - ★ IS **DILIGENT** in "making every effort" and giving his/her all to growing as a disciple. He/she strives to give their BEST - not leftovers to God. (Deut 4:9; 6:7; 28:1; 2 Chron 34:33; Psalm 119:4; Proverbs 4:23; Romans 12:8, 11; 2 Tim 2:15; Heb 4:11; 6:11; 11:6; 2 Peter 2:5-12, 10; 3:14-18; 1 Cor 9:24-27)

- ★ Is a **DOER** of whatever God's Word **commands**. He/she **lives** his/her life "on every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." (Deut 8:3; Matt 4:4; Luke 4:4; James 1:22)
- A disciple/Christian is **NOT** one who believe that Christ died for them and, so, nothing and no works are necessary in living the Christian life. Disciples/Christians are **doers** of God's Word. (James 1:22; 1 John 2:3-4)

## Five Serious Warnings in Hebrews

- ❶ **DANGER** of Neglect (Hebrews 2:1-4)
- ❷ **DANGER** of Unbelief (Hebrews 3:7-4:13)
- ❸ **DANGER** of Not Maturing (Growing) (Hebrews 5:11-6:20)
- ❹ **DANGER** of Drawing Back (Hebrews 10:26-39)
- ❺ **DANGER** of Refusing God (Hebrews 12:25-29)
- ★ A fool says to these warning, "Christ died for me, my salvation is secured, I do not have to take these warnings seriously." (Psalm 14; 53; Matthew 7:24-29)

## Summary of Hebrews Chapter 1

- (v. 1) God has spoken. **MEDITATE**.
- (vv. 2-3) Superiority of Christ over the Prophets
  - ① Christ is HEIR of ALL things.
  - ② Christ is CREATOR of ALL things. (Space, Matter, Time)
  - ③ Christ is the BRIGHTNESS of God's glory.
  - ④ Christ is the EXACT IMAGE of God.
  - ⑤ Christ UPHOLDS ALL things.
  - ⑥ Christ PUT AWAY ALL the sins of His people.
  - ⑦ Christ is SEATED at the RIGHT hand of MAJESTY.
- (vv. 4-14) Superiority of Christ over Angels (seven Old Testament passages):
  - ① He has obtained a more excellent name than they. (vv. 4-5)
  - ② He will be (is) worshiped by them as the Firstborn. (v. 6)
  - ③ He made them! (v. 7)
  - ④ He sits on the throne of Heaven. (vv. 8-9)
  - ⑤ He is anointed over them. (v. 9)
  - ⑥ He is the unchangeable and eternal Creator of the universe. (vv. 10-12)
  - ⑦ He has a higher place of honour. (vv. 13-14)

## From His Divinity to His Humanity (Chapter 2)

- Chapter 1 dealt with Christ's divinity – He is GOD! (vv. 8, 9, 10)
- Chapter 2 deals with Christ's humanity – He is MAN!
- **BUT** verse 1-4 are a *parenthesis* between the two.
- The writer makes a **practical application** of what he already has said.
- "Since all of this is truth, then we **must** . . ."

## THEREFORE . . . (Hebrews 2:1)

- “THEREFORE” connects us with what has been declared in chapter 1.
- **BECAUSE CHRIST IS WHO HE IS WE MUST PAY CLOSER ATTENTION TO WHAT WE HAVE HEARD, LEST WE DRIFT AWAY FROM IT.**
- “must” is the great word  $\delta\epsilon\iota$  which is a strong word of absolute necessity.
- Christ was/IS God and to ignore Christ is to ignore GOD!
- “give earnest attention to” – **We** must *pay much closer attention to ...*
- We must **ACTIVELY** give attention to these truths about this **GREAT** salvation!
- We must apply our **MINDS** to these truths and act on them!
- “drifting” - “to move or float effortlessly”; “to move along without any or little resistance”; “moving along without any clear destination”; “to move slowly, especially as a result of outside forces, with no control over direction”

## Consequences of **NEGLECT** (Hebrews 2:2)

- **IF** the **LAW** (word spoken by angels: see Psalm 68:17; Deut. 33:2; Acts 7:38, 53; Galatians 3:19) **DOES NOT** ignore any **SIN** and was **STEADFAST** (unmoveable) then how shall we ignore such a **GREAT SALVATION!**
- Consider the **LAW**: Leviticus 24:14-16; Number 15:30-36.
- Consider James 2:10!!
- **TOO SEVERE??** Here in Hebrews 2:2 we are reminded that God is **JUST**. See Deuteronomy 32:4; Psalm 92:15.
  - **PUNISHMENT will be relative to LIGHT**. See Matthew 11:20-24; Mark 12:38-40; Luke 12:47; James 3:1; **HEBREWS 10:28-29**.
- **SALVATION – to be saved from God’s holy, righteous anger and wrath!**
  - ★ How shall we **ESCAPE!!**
- God holds us accountable. We **MUST DILIGENTLY** make our election and calling **SURE**. 2 Peter 1:10

## Neglect of So **GREAT** a Salvation (Hebrews 2:3)

- There **MUST** be a continuous response to such a **GREAT** salvation.
- This cannot be ignored.
- These truths are **SERIOUS** and there are great consequences for those who **neglect** them.
- The salvation the writer is speaking of is the salvation revealed by God in His **WHOLE WORD**. This salvation begins with **ELECTION** in “eternity past” and continues through to **GLORIFICATION** in “eternity future” - including all that salvation is **in time**. (Ephesians 1:3-4; 2:4-10; Philippians 1:6)
- It is the salvation described by the chain of grace in Romans 8:28-30.



## What is NEGLECT? (Hebrews 2:3)

- The opposite of diligent. God calls (commands) His people to be **diligent** in living the Christian life. (2 Peter 1:5-11; Hebrews 12:14; Proverbs 4:23; John 6:27; Philip 2:12; Heb 6:11-12; 1 Cor 15:58; Romans 12:8, 11)
- Being a **passive** Christian. Christianity is an ACTIVE relationship requiring active participation on a daily basis. WORKS (doing the things God's commands for our good) are to be performed every day. (James 2:14-26; Titus 2:14; Ephesians 2:10; Hebrews 10:24)
- Being more concerned about my will (my desires, my career, my family, my pleasure, my ways) rather than being busy doing God's will. (Matthew 7:21; 12:50; 1 John 2:17)
- Living one's life in accordance what they believe to be right or ok rather than living (doing) on every word of God. (Luke 4:4; Matthew 4:4)
- Ignoring God's Word. (Jeremiah 44:16; Exodus 5:2; Luke 19:14)
- Hearing but not doing the Word of God. (James 1:22; Matt 7:24-29)
- Failure to study and meditate on the God's Word. (Psa 1:1-3; Luke 10:41-42)
- Failure to apply the MEANS by which one grows as a disciple: (Acts 2:42-47)
  - ✗ Continuing steadfastly in the doctrines of the Word of God. (2 Tim 2:15)
  - ✗ Continuing steadfastly in corporate & private prayer. (Lk 18:1; 1Th 5:17)
  - ✗ Continuing steadfastly in intimate fellowship with the Body of Christ.
  - ✗ Being stewards of the grace that God has given you to serve the Body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:7-16; 1 Cor 12:4-11; 1 Peter 4:10)
- Not "pressing forward" daily. (Philippians 3:12-14; Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 Cor 9:24-27)
- Believing that Christianity is a private matter and how I live my Christian life is my business. (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)
- Ignoring God's commands both in His moral Law (His Ten Commandments) and His commands found in the New Testament. (1 John 2:3-4; 5:1-3)

## GOD Has Confirmed This Salvation (Hebrews 2:2-4)

- This SALVATION was first spoken to us by the Lord – Christ Jesus.
  - Again — to ignore Christ is to ignore GOD!
  - See Deuteronomy 18:18-19; Luke 9:35
- When Christ preached salvation He confirmed His words by doing a "SIGN" that only God could do. See John 10:37-38; Acts 2:22.
- God also bore witness to the apostles by confirming their words by signs, wonders, miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit. (1 John 1:1-5)

**IF YOU ARE NOT DILIGENT YOU ARE DRIFTING!**  
**IF YOU ARE NOT PRESSING FORWARD YOU ARE DRIFTING!**