

Hebrews 2:1-4 So Great A Salvation

A few years ago my wife and I were vacationing in Maui – Napili Bay

A) On the trip I spent the majority of my time snorkeling or reading on the beach. –

B) Denise was not a big fan of snorkeling especially after this one fish started chasing her – **cute** – bathing suit.

C) So Denise spent a lot of time on one of those one of the \$2.00 rafts from Rite aid-

1) One day She heads out on her raft – soaking in the sun.

2) So I am sitting there reading – and I look up I see she is drifting pretty far out there.

D) Keep watching and it suddenly dawns on me – she is asleep – Sleep anywhere / **she is asleep and is going to drift to the next island** –

1) Run out – swim out to her – wake her up and pull her back in.

That is what happens when you are asleep – it is easy to drift. {Driving

A) Remember those two NWA pilots who fell asleep and over shot the Airport in Minn by 100 miles?

B) Drifting also happens when you are not paying attention. –

C) Living here in So Cal – all experienced this

1) At the Beach – slide under tow – don't realize it – just enjoying the water – look back at the beach and **don't recognize anyone.**

2) **Drifted 300 yards down the beach** - or worse yet drifted out – look everyone looks like ANTS – jaws theme song - head.

D) Drifting can happen very easily when you are not paying attention!

The same principle applies spiritually – which is why the writer of Hebrews here in Chapter 2 gives this warning – **V.1 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.**

SINCE ALL this is true, we ought to pay much closer attention than ever to the truths that we have heard, lest in any way we drift past [them] and slip away. AMP

Give the more earnest Heed = Pay attention – stay in tune –

A) Re-occurring exhortation in the Bible

B) Pay attention to the signs and seasons to know that the coming of the Lord is near!

C) Here the exhortation is about Paying attention to this Great Salvation that has been provided for us by Jesus – lest we drift way from it.

“Drifting is something that happens quite automatically when we are not anchored to anything solid; if we are not "anchored" in the superiority of Jesus, we will drift with the currents of the world, the flesh, and the devil.” Dave Guzik

Now here is a little note about the layout of the book of Hebrews –

Aa)The writer will teach and then He will warn.
Teach – warn.

B)That was the pattern of the early Church. – Paul in Colossians 1:28 “Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ.”

B)Warning and teaching go hand in hand
Courson “if you feed or teach and don’t warn, you are only fattening them up for the kill.”

C)So the writer is going to Teach – Ch.1 Teaching the superiority of Jesus over the Angels – Ch.2 First of 5 Warnings – Don’t Neglect your salvation.

Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. 2 For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

So this is what the writer of Hebrews is saying: The warning

A)If there was a **just punishment** for disobeying the Law – presented by the Angels –

B)How **much greater will the Judgment be** for rejecting the Salvation that has been made available through Jesus –

Bb)A Salvation that has been confirmed through various miracles signs and wonders ?

1)Signs and wonders would include – first and foremost the REZ of Jesus

C)But also **the transformation** that had taken place in the apostles – they were changed men – who had turned their world right side up.

1)**Moved in the miracles** – everything was being done in the name and the Power of their Risen Lord Jesus.

D)To turn away or to neglect So great a Salvation – There would be no escaping the Judgment to come.

See Basis on which man will be judged is not: Good or bad / Giver or a taker

A)The Basis will be what did you do with Jesus! –

B)What did you do with the Salvation He provided ?

1)Only two choices – You received it – or you rejected it!

C)Only Choices – no middle ground!

1)and the punishment for rejecting So great a Salvation is **Eternal Damnation** – Separated from Godtorment.

What makes this Salvation so Great?

#1 Jesus delivered us from the Penalty of Sin!

Isaiah 53:5

“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.” NIV

He took the punishment that we deserved!

What makes it so Great ? We are not going to Hell! –

A)Hell is your Job / your boss is Satan – Not even close!

You have a job 13.5 million Americans are out of work!

B)Hell is your marriage – no that is a trial

C)Spoiled – do whatever / buy whatever – not now – tough

1)Gripe that gas is \$4.20

D)Europe between 6.28 and \$9.00 Norway \$9.08 per gallon /

1)Netherlands \$8.59

The trials we are currently going through are not Hell –

A)Salvation is great we are saved from Hell –

B)Saved from Trib - Fall on us and hide us from the wrath of the lamb

1) Better – to be crushed than to go through that!

C)Thru it all -God’s heart is still see people saved!

1)Probably martyred – Get saved Now

D)So Great a salvation – Jesus saved us from the penalty of Sin!

#2 Jesus delivered us from our position of sin!

A) Romans 3:23 “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”

B)That was our Position – Sinners – fallen short – lacking –

C)Then Jesus showed up – Died / Rose / here is what happens to those who believe

Romans 3:24-26

24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

Justified = Declared righteous

25 whom God set forth as a propitiation{satisfaction} by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had

passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just {Jesus paid the penalty} and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. {We receive the benefit.

#3 Jesus delivered us from the Power of Sin!

A) Broke the chains of sins bondage- death – fear-

B) Woman caught in adultery “Go and sin no more!”

John 8:31-32

“Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

C) Free from what? John 8:34-36

“Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. 35 And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. 36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”

D) Coach Clark – Power broken

E) Courson – Dave – intimidation

#4 Jesus will one day deliver us from the Presence of Sin!

1 John 3:2-3

2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Our Salvation is so great because we go from being God’s enemies to being His sons and daughters!

A) We are now accepted in the beloved.

B) Point is greatly illustrated in the life of a man by the name of Mephibosheth.

C) When David became King – he wanted to take care of any of the Children of His friend Jonathan.

1) There was only one left – His name was **Mephibosheth** – His name means shameful one.

D) **Mephibosheth** was a cripple – lame in his feet and he was living in hiding

1) He was convinced that if David found him / he would kill him – because that is what a new king would normally do.

Mephibosheth is a great picture of humanity

A) I DO NOT mean to pop anyone's bubble today, but we need to see ourselves in the light of Scripture/

1) Mankind is LAME & Shameful because of sin.

B)Mephibosheth is living in a place called *LODEBAR*
= "not a pasture" Some read it as *the place of nothingness*

the place of bareness/ dissatisfaction & frustration

B)Again that is man apart from Christ – that is man w/
out God – Empty // Barren / No Satisfaction / no
purpose

C) **Perhaps that is a good description of your life
TODAY !** Find yourself in a place of being barren
spiritually / frusrtated w/ your life /

1) Dissatisfied by what is going on or not going on !

D) Your life is marked by a sense of meaninglessness/
exisitng from day to day w/ no real purpose or direction

THAT is life w/out Christ

**A)LAME in our feet...SHAMEFUL.....Residing in
the place of NOTHINGNESS / afraid of our King
and running from our King**

**B) But also want to NOTE: In our text, David
seeking Mephibosheth is a powerful illustration to us
of God the Father seeking the lost.**

**C)When David finds Him He saves Him – takes him
out of that place and brings Him to the Palace**

1)Live there and always eat at the Kings Table – as one
of His Sons – all because of Jonathan.

**Guys that is us – Shameful – rescued from the place
of nothingness – to dwell at the King table.**

A)Jesus is not ashamed to call us His Brothers/sisters

**B)Given an Inheritance – that will not fade can't be
stolen**

**C)Partakers of the plan of God – Given a mission –
Purpose.**

**How could anyone be so foolish as to neglect or turn
their backs on so great a salvation ?**

**A)But that is exactly what these Jewish believers
were in danger of doing**

B)So by going back into Judaism these Jewish believers
were in Danger of neglecting this great salvation. -
Eternal consequences

**What about for us? – We too can neglect this great
salvation- neglect can mean more than just reject – it
can mean to make light of –**

**A)Marriage – make light of or don't give time and
attention it deserves**

**B)In that way we can neglect our salvation – and
there are consequences for doing so.**

Wrap this up by discussing 4 ways that we can be guilty of neglecting our salvation and the consequences that result from that.

#1 We neglect our salvation it by not giving worth to it – having ungrateful hearts!

A)Ever been disappointed with God? Yes – I have –

B)Are you serious! – I should be elated that I am saved – not going to hell

C)I am disappointed over unanswered prayer – More blessed than I ever deserve

1)Starting with the reality I am saved.

Consequence: Live in a Joyless Christianity

A)Jesus said –don't rejoice in the miracles and that the demons are subject to you rejoice that your names are written in heaven.

B)We all going through times when things are not going the way that we would like.

#2 We neglect our salvation by thinking we can add to it or improve upon it through our performance.

A)We can do things to somehow improve our standing with God

B)Performance treadmill spiritually

C)Consequence? Always worn out – never at peace!

#3 We neglect it by giving into legalism – adding to our faith rules and regulations that have no place biblically putting ourselves back into bondage.

A)Consequence – Condemnation – not doing it – Pride when we are.

#4 We neglect it by not walking in the victory that it provides – Romans 6

Consequence: We stay bound to sin and addictions.