

# *Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies*

## **Hebrews 2:1-4**

### **Lesson 2**

The book of Hebrews contains five warnings to believers. These are practical, applicable, and vital to our growth and progress in our Christian life. This week's lesson will concentrate on the first of these warnings.

#### **DAY ONE: Read Hebrews 2:1-4**

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
  - a. This week we will be studying the first paragraph division of Hebrews 2. List below the subject(s) covered in verses 1-4.

How would you title this section? Record your title on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

Used in prior homework: *God/Father* and *Jesus/Lord*

New to this lesson: *Holy Spirit* and *we/us*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Hebrews 2:1-4. Remember, as you mark these words, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to them.

3. The first warning to believers begins in verse one with the term of conclusion, *therefore*. Mark this term of conclusion with the symbol of your choice. What is the warning?

Challenge: This conclusion/warning refers back to Hebrews 1: 1,2 where we read that God *has in these last days spoken to us by His Son*. Explain how the conclusion relates to this truth.

## DAY TWO: Read Hebrews 2:1

1. One of the greatest dangers of the Christian life is losing interest in and becoming apathetic about those things that have become familiar. This passage presses us to steadfastness – especially in these last days. There are so many things in this present world that attract or distract or that usurp or siphon off our passion for The Word and things of God. We need to see Hebrews 2:1-4 as a red alert warning us of this danger. What insight do you gain from Mark 4:19 on this?
  
2. Think about the warning in verse 1. In what way does this urge you to listen fervently to what is being spoken to you in Hebrews 1:1-4?
  
3. What four-letter word follows the word *therefore*?
  - a. In your own words, define this word as it relates to the warning.
  
4. Consider the phrase *lest we drift away*. What parallels can you draw between *drifting* and the danger of a believer not continuing to give *heed* to the Word?
  - a. Although the writer's primary concern was that the Jewish Christians not *drift* back in to the bondage of the Law, Christians today are susceptible to *drifting* back in to old ways of thinking or behavior. What might be some of them?
    - 1.) What are some things that cause you to *drift*?
  
5. Hebrews 2:1 supplies the antidote for *drifting*. What is it?
  - a. What does it mean to *give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard*?
    - 1.) Share some practical ways to do this.

### DAY THREE: Read Hebrews 2:2

1. It has been said that when familiarity with the truth tends to lose its impact on the believer's life, the result is an almost imperceptible, gradual backsliding. There is nothing sadder or more perilous in the believer's life and witness. Hebrews 2:2-4 powerfully draws our attention to this. Notice that verses 2-4 are one sentence. In these verses, the writer draws a strong contrast between the severity of punishment of those who disobeyed the Old Testament Law, which was *spoken by angels*, with the consequences of disregarding God's Word, which has come *through the Lord* (verse 3). In what way should this stir us to give *the more earnest heed* to what the Lord says to us through His Word?

2. Use the following verses to confirm that angels were active in the giving of the Law:

Acts 7:38,53

Galatians 3:19

3. Those who lived under Old Testament Law received a *just reward* (punishment) for *every transgression and disobedience*. What did God promise in Jeremiah 21:14?

Challenge: Research and record a few of the *just rewards* (punishments) for *transgression* of the Law.

- a. Hebrews 2:2 was reminding the Jewish believers that God had laid out the rules and the punishment/consequences for disobeying them. What does Romans 6:23 say about the *wages of sin*?

**DAY FOUR: Read Hebrews 2:3**

1. Hebrews 2:2 reveals the first reason we *must take heed* – judgment under the law was strict – those who ignored the law were severely punished. Now, in verse 3, we read the second reason – judgment, under the gospel, will be even more severe. According to John 3:36, what are the consequences of *neglecting so great a salvation*?

2. What do you learn about *so great a salvation* from Hebrews 2:3b, 4? List your answer phrase by phrase from this passage. (Notice the verifying Scripture references next to your answer.)

a. *spoken* \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrews 1:2

b. *confirmed to us* \_\_\_\_\_ Luke 1:2

c. *God* \_\_\_\_\_

1.) How did God *bear witness* to this salvation according to verse 4?

a.) *with* \_\_\_\_\_ *and* \_\_\_\_\_ Acts 3:7-9,11,12,16

b.) *with* \_\_\_\_\_ Acts 2:4-12;8:6-7

c.) *and* \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

3. Complete this day's study by meditating on the phrase *so great a salvation*. This phrase is a powerful reminder of what God has provided for us through His Son. Why is this *salvation so great*?

a. Read John 3:16. Observe the word *so* in Hebrews 2:3 and this verse. What does this say to you?

## DAY FIVE: Read Hebrews 2:4

1. Review and record the three means by which this *great salvation* has been spoken and confirmed to us (Day Four, Question 2).
  - a. How does this show you that this *salvation* was not an idea of a mere man?
  - b. In what ways do *signs and wonders, miracles and Spiritual gifts bear witness* to what Jesus has spoken?
2. According to Acts 5:12,14 what were the results of the *signs and wonders* of the apostles?
3. The disciples were careful to give credit to Whom credit was due. What did Peter boldly declare in Acts 4:9-10?
4. We also see in Hebrews 2:4 that God *bore witness* through *gifts of the Holy Spirit*. Using Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, and Ephesians 4:11, list some of those *gifts*.
  - a. Look at 1 Corinthians 12:11. How does God *distribute* these *gifts*?
    - 1.) Note the similarity here with the last phrase in Hebrews 2:4. Why is this important to remember?
    - 2.) Ephesians 4:12 reminds us that the purpose of these *gifts* is *for the equipping of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ*. Using Hebrews 2:4, what is another purpose of *gifts of the Holy Spirit*?
      - a.) In what ways do Spiritual gifts *bear witness* to Christ?

## DAY SIX: Review Hebrews 2:1-4

1. *Therefore, we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard...(verse1).* What are some *things* you have *heard* from Jesus' teachings that, *when heeded*, keep you from *drifting*?
  
2. Consider your own life. What are some warnings you are glad you *heeded*?
  - a. What trouble have you gotten in to for not paying attention to a warning?
  
3. What kinds of attitudes or actions would mark a Christian who is *drifting*?
  
4. What advice or counsel would you give to a friend who was *drifting* spiritually?
  
5. Some of the Jewish Christians were *drifting* towards their old traditions and beliefs. Why should we give *more earnest heed to the things we have heard* from Christ than the traditions, thoughts that we formerly believed?
  
6. How would you answer the question which begins in Hebrews 2:3 and ends with verse 4?

*With my whole heart I have sought You;  
Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!  
- Psalm 119:10*