

Hebrews 2:1-4
(Psalm 95:1-11)
“Lest We Slip Away”

Introduction

The author of Hebrews stops, as he will do several times in this “word of exhortation,” in order to warn his readers of the crucial importance of heeding his words. He will continue to press us to understand that this is no mere academic exercise or speculative theological enterprise unrelated to daily living, but that what he is writing is a matter of spiritual life and death. If he is wrong, then we are wasting our time this Labor Day weekend talking about it. But if he is right, then we should pray for the grace to heed words so very crucial to our spiritual health.

Body

- 1. He issues a serious warning that we not drift away from the apostolic preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ (2:1).**

He has in view, not an outright rejection of the gospel or a defiant rebellion against it, but rather a gradual drifting away from it by those who once believed it, valued it, and sought to live gospel shaped lives.

- 2. He then gives us both negative and positive reasons that we should take this warning seriously (2:2-4).**

He first gives a negative reason, namely, the even greater danger of rejecting new covenant grace than of rejecting old covenant law (2:2&3a). He follows with a positive reason, namely the nature of its witnesses: announced by the Lord Jesus, attested to by those who knew him, and confirmed by the power of God’s Spirit in the lives of his people (2:3b&4).

- 3. Finally, he tells us what we must do in order to keep from “drifting away” from the truth and neglecting “such a great salvation”(2:1&3).**

“Pay much closer attention” (2:1). How? The ancient rhythm of prayerful, meditative reading, and obedience to what God reveals to you: Pray, read, meditate, contemplate, incarnate (live it out in joyful obedience).

Conclusion

So, will you heed this warning? Do you feel its force, understand its logic, and realize its seriousness? Where in your life are you drifting this morning? What will you do to arrest the drift, to anchor your soul, to pay much closer attention to the revelation of God’s glory and grace in the person of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord?

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