The Book of Hebrews—Chapter 2

# The call to fervent obedience

Introduction: In order to keep from drifting away from the Lord Jesus we must be fervent in our obedience to Christ

* We are called to radical living for Christ  
  + Luke 9:23
  + Radical living is giving our all for Christ
  + Denying our selves
  + Putting away selfishness
  + Living a life that is selflessness for His Cause, not ours
* It is a about being obsessed with Christ
  + He is the great obsession
  + Being on fire for Christ and blazing a trail for Him
  + When we live this way we will see many God moments
  + This will give you stories for the hearts of others
  + You will be sharing those God moments with other people
  + It is putting the first things first
  + Christ is to have first place in all of our lives
  + In all of creation
* It is not I but Christ who lives in me
  + This is loving God up close
  + It is being disciplined enough to follow Him no matter what
  + Not in your own power, but in the Power of the Holy Spirit
* Life becomes tremendous at this level of living
  + Purpose
  + Fulfillment
  + Blessings
  + Overcoming low self-esteem
  + Finding value in life
  + Walking in Wisdom

* **Hebrews 2:1-18 (NKJV)**   
  1  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?   
  5  For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels.   
  6  But one testified in a certain place, saying: *"What is man that You are mindful of him,* *Or the son of man that You take care of him?*   
  7  *You have made him a little lower than the angels;* *You have crowned him with glory and honor,* *And set him over the works of Your hands.*   
  8  *You have put all things in subjection under his feet."* For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing *that is* not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.   
  9  But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.   
  10  For it was fitting for Him, for whom *are* all things and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.   
  11  For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified *are* all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren,   
  12  saying: *"I will declare Your name to My brethren;* *In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You."*   
  13  And again: *"I will put My trust in Him."* And again: *"Here am I and the children whom God has given Me."*   
  14  Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,   
    
  15  and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.   
    
  16  For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.   
  17  Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.   
  18  For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.
* **Pay close attention to What you have learned verse 1**
  + **Verse 1** says, “Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.”
  + more earnest heed
  + Nothing and no one stands still. Either we are moving forward, or we are drifting backward.
  + That is the way it is---you are either working on your Christian life or you are slowly moving away from Him
  + This passage is about not neglecting salvation
  + Not neglecting your Christian life
  + Not neglecting your sanctification
  + Not neglecting your relationship with God
  + Carelessness in our Christian life will be disastrous spiritually and with our relationship to Christ.
* Disobedience to the Law will bring punishment verse 2
  + **Verse 2 says**, 2  For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward,
  + We **must ask did the angels speak the word of God?**
    - There are a couple of possible answers  
      * Angels is the Greek word angelos that means messenger
      * This could be referring to the prophets and such that we know gave the Word of God
      * Most, however, see this as referring to the Angels providing the 10 commandments to Mosses
      * The Angels were the ones that God used to deliver the commandments
      * **Acts 7:38 (NKJV)**   
        38  This is he who was in the congregation in the wilderness with the Angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and *with* our fathers, the one who received the living oracles to give to us,
      * **Acts 7:53 (NKJV)**   
        53  who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept *it."*
      * **Galatians 3:19 (NKJV)**   
        19  What purpose then *does* the law *serve?* It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; *and it was* appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.
    - **The word given was steadfast**
      * It was settled
      * It was established
    - **every transgression and disobedience received a just reward,**
      * disobedience to the word
      * to the Law would be punished
* Neglect salvation and there is no hope verse 3
  + **Verse 3** says 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,*
  + If we neglect salvation there is no hope
  + No hope for anyone who does not get saved
  + The Greek word neglect means
    - Careless
    - Make light of
    - Negligent
* God confirmed the life, words, and works of Christ verse 4  
  + **Verse 4** says God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?
  + God bears witness with all of this to 3 groups
    - Signs and wonders were for the Jews
    - Various miracles for the Gentiles
    - The Holy Spirit for the Church
  + God was demonstrating that He sent His Word through all of these means and especially through Jesus and His Apostles
  + This was all accomplished through and because of His divine Will
  + This was doing His will
  + We are to pray Thy kingdom come and Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. The Will of God is paramount to everything else in life
* Man has a superior position than of angels verse 5
  + **Verse 5** says5  For He has **not** put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels.
  + The angels are the servants of God and they do His bidding, but they have not been given authority over God’s Creation.
  + The world to come will be in subjection to God and His people.
  + The writer is returning to the thought in Chapter 1 that Christ is superior to the Angels
  + It is the supremacy of Christ
  + Our Lord has complete authority
* The position of man verses 6-8
  + **Verse 6** says6  But one testified in a certain place, saying: *"What is man that You are mindful of him,* *Or the son of man that You take care of him?*
  + But one testified refers to the Old Testament Scriptures:  
    - **Psalm 8:3-6 (NKJV)**   
      3  When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,   
      4  What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?   
      5  For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor.   
      6  You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all *things* under his feet,
    - Verse 6 is teaching about man at this point.
    - Many think it is speaking of the Messiah, but it is referring to man
    - God placed man on the earth to have dominion over all of creation
    - But when man sinned he was not able to rule over all of the earth
    - Verse 8 informs us that this will be restored to man but not yet
    - Look at verse 7
  + **Verse 7** says7  *You have made him a little lower than the angels;* *You have crowned him with glory and honor,* *And set him over the works of Your hands.*
  + **Verse 8** says8  *You have put all things in subjection under his feet."* For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing *that is* not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.
* Jesus restored man to the created position and purpose verse 9-18
  + **Jesus who is God became a man**
    - **Verse 9** says9  But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.
  + **Jesus was the Creator and He provided salvation for His people**
    - **Verse 10** says10  For it was fitting for Him, for whom *are* all things and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
    - **Captain of Salvation**
    - **Perfect through Sufferings**
  + **Christians are part of the Family**
    - **Verse 11** says11  For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified *are* all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren,
    - **Verse 12** says12  saying: *"I will declare Your name to My brethren;* *In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You."*
    - **Verse 13** says13  And again: *"I will put My trust in Him."* And again: *"Here am I and the children whom God has given Me."*
  + **Jesus Crushed the head of Satan**
    - **Verse 14** says14  Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,
  + **Free from the fear of death**
    - **Verse 15** says15  and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.
  + **Verse 16** says16  For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.
  + **Verse 17** says17  Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
  + **Verse 18** says18  For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.