

Teaching – Hebrews 2: 1-9

Sermon – Danger, New Covenant!

Date – July 18, 2021

Compare and Contrast Hebrews 1:1-4 and 2:1-4. These are called “parallelisms”.

- In Chapter 1, God speaks and in Chapter 2, we are warned to pay attention to Christ.
- The “inclusio” in between these two sections (1:5-14) depict and contrast Jesus, the Son with the angels.

The Warning or Danger that is prefaced here (v.1) is a warning against drifting away from the moorings. The moorings would be ‘what we have heard’ first from Jesus himself, from the witnesses and from God who revealed signs and wonders.

The message “declared by the angels” (v.2) illustrates for us how the Torah was mediated to Moses from God in the Sinai. (See Exodus 20:1 as it is interpreted via Deuteronomy 33:2).

- It was commonly assumed the Torah was given to Moses by an angel who mediated the message from God by both Jews and Christians.
- See Stephen’s sermon in Acts 7:38,53 and Paul’s letter (Galatians 3:19).

If we neglect “a salvation as great as this” (v.3) spoken and demonstrated by Jesus in his life – teaching – proclamation – sacrificial death – exaltation) how can we escape?

Read Psalm 8 in the RSV and one of these NIV/NLT/NRSV.

- Do you see the translation change?

Christ “the Son” became “lower than the angels” and walked the tragic road of the human condition to defeat sin and death. (Hebrews 2:6b-8a)

Questions:

1. What is God warning us about as Christians today?
2. What might we be tempted to drift from? (Worship – Prayer – faith – acts of mercy – Scripture - other)?
3. What’s your view of angels?
4. Is Psalm 8:3-7 speaking of humanity or is it speaking of Jesus?
5. How can we stay anchored to Christ as individuals – as a community?