



SERMON NOTES

KEEP MOVING FORWARD

Don't Drift!

"We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away." (Hebrews 2:1)

Examples:

- Becoming comfortable with sin
- Being unwilling to move forward
- Giving up relationships
- Giving in when faced with hardship

Why take this seriously?

"For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation?" (Hebrews 2:2-3)

"...you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it." (Acts 7:53)

What's the solution?

"We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away."

Jesus is:

- the Messiah/the Son of David (1:5)
- Worthy of praise (1:6)
- the righteous ruler (1:7-9)
- Everlasting (1:10-12)
- Enthroned in heaven (1:13)

Drifting involves denial.

DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Sermon Overview

Weariness. Sluggishness. Apathy. We have all experienced these feelings at some point—they drain our excitement and energy for living well. So, what do you do when you find yourself in a season of exhaustion and fatigue?

The book of Hebrews is written to a group of Christians who had found themselves in that type of season. In the midst of opposition and life's complications, they were in danger of losing interest in following Christ. So, this book reminds them of the resources they have in Christ and the nature of the journey they are on. All along the way, the author's challenge to them and to us is simply this—keep moving forward!

Praying Scripture

The prayer focus this week is Hebrews 2:1.

"We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away."

Below is an example of how to pray the passage:

Father, I know that I am prone to want my own way and wander away from what you desire for me. It can be easy to forget what I've heard and learned and rely on my own way of doing things. I pray that I would spend time in your word and in your presence each day so that I remain strong in my faith and my love for you. In the name of Jesus I pray, Amen.

DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

JANUARY 14

Nowhere in scripture is there such a sustained, thorough treatment on angels as is seen in Hebrews chapters one and two. (Swindoll 19) To establish the superiority of Jesus to the angels, the author refers to a plethora of Psalms. The passage this week point to two themes introduced in verses 1-4: (1) God confirming Jesus as the Son of God, the Son's role in creation, and his rightful place on the throne and (2) exalting the Son as the Messiah, God's anointed King. (Guthrie 67)

Angels are powerful creations of God who conduct various services for the Lord. They carry his messages and perform his will among us-warning, protecting, helping, and rescuing. They provide service that comes from heaven to earth. (Swindoll 19) However, they are not to be compared to the person and work of Jesus Christ. The author of Hebrews carefully and competently builds his case for the pre-eminence of Jesus by referring to various Old Testament passages that would have been familiar to his Jewish audience.

As you read the verses today, may you be reminded of the authority and power of Jesus as he sits on the throne.



DAY ONE

Breathe, listen, pray and ask the Spirit to guide your time.

Read Hebrews 1:5-2:4.

1. John cites seven different Psalms in the first chapter of Hebrews. (Psalm 2:7, Psalm 89:26-27, Psalm 97:7, Psalm 104:4, Psalm 45:6-7, Psalm 102:25-27, Psalm 110: 1) Why do you think he chose to focus on these Old Testament passages as a strategy to present his thoughts?
2. Fill in the chart below that specifically contrasts Jesus and the angels.

Jesus Christ	Angels
1:5	
1:6	
1:7-9	
1:10-12	
1:13-14	

3. What do you think the cumulative effect of these contrasts would have had on a Jewish believer who was struggling with going back to the familiar practices of Judaism?

Reflect on the words of these Psalms: Psalm 2:7, Psalm 89:26-27, Psalm 97:7, Psalm 104:4, Psalm 45:6-7, Psalm 102:25-27, Psalm 110: 1. Which one(s) resonated with you the most? Why were you impacted by those particular Psalms?

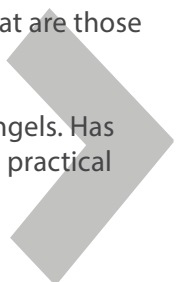
DAY TWO

Breathe, listen, pray and ask the Spirit to guide your time.

Read Hebrews 1:5-2:4 again.

1. What divine names and descriptions of Jesus are attributed to Christ? (1:5,8,10)
2. What work did Christ do that only God can do? (1:2-3, 10) In what other way is Jesus portrayed as divine? (1:3, 10-13)
3. The Old Testament quotations in Hebrews 1:5, 13 are bracketed by three rhetorical questions. What are those rhetorical questions? Why do you think the author chose to use rhetorical questions?

Reflect on your thoughts about angelic beings. This passage focuses on contrasting Jesus with the angels. Has your perspective on angels changed after reading these verses? Read Psalm 91:9-12 and consider the practical implications of these verses for your life. What is your response?



DAY THREE

Breathe, listen, pray and ask the Spirit to guide your time.

Read Hebrews 1:5-2:4 again.

1. How does the warning in 2:1 follow logically from the previous verses in chapter one?
2. How is each person of the Trinity involved in the delivery and confirmation of the salvation message?
3. Given the context of this week's study (Hebrews 1:5-2:4), summarize why the Hebrew Christians were in greater danger if they ignored "so great a salvation" than those who violated the Old Testament law?

Reflect on times when you have ignored or lessened the reality of your salvation. How has God testified in your Spirit about the truth of your salvation?

Respond and Apply: In what ways are modern believers prone to drift away from neglecting the truth of who Jesus is? How do we prioritize other things over the worship of the Christ, our savior and redeemer? Spend time this week worshipping the one who offered us "so great a salvation."

Listen to this worship song, [Jesus My Redeemer](#), and worship him who gives us our great salvation.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you from what Pastor George shared?
2. Hebrews 2:1 says *"We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away."* What is the author telling us to pay attention to? Why is it important for us to not drift in our faith?
3. When you think about Christ, in what role do you see him most often (i.e. Savior, Shepherd, King, Prophet, Priest, etc.)? Why do you think that is the image you default to?
4. When do you struggle to adhere to the authority of Christ? Why do you think we struggle with authority? What are the differences between the authority of Christ and human authority?
5. How are you working to not be complacent with a lifestyle that causes you to drift? How can you live with intentionality and stand firm (i.e. don't drift) in your relationship with Christ?