



SUNDAY MORNING

AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: The Danger of Drifting

Passage: Hebrews 2:1-4

Speaker: Pastor Dan Preston

Introduction: The writer of Hebrews paints a sobering picture—not of open rebellion, but of quiet neglect. No one plans to drift from God, yet it happens when we stop paying close attention to the truth we’ve heard. Hebrews 2 opens with a single word that anchors this warning—“Therefore.” Because Jesus is better than angels, prophets, and all creation, our response to Him must be greater still. It’s not enough to admire the truth; we must anchor our hearts to it.

I. The Danger of Drifting (Verse 1)

Drifting doesn’t require rebellion—it only requires neglect. Neglect is easier than rebellion because it feels harmless. You can drift while still singing, still teaching, still attending. The outward structure remains, but the inward fire has faded.

A. The Cause of Drifting

We drift when we stop paying attention.

Life’s current always moves away from God, never toward Him. You never drift into holiness; you only drift into apathy.

B. The Signs of Drifting

- Worship feels mechanical rather than meaningful.



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- The Bible becomes a textbook rather than a love letter.
- Sin doesn't shock you like it once did.
- You find yourself more comfortable with the world than with God's people.

God will not let His children drift without correction.

II. The Certainty of Discipline (Verse 2)

Some people rebel openly; others drift silently. Both are dangerous.

The Christian life doesn't work in neutral. When you stop moving forward, you start drifting backward.

God disciplines not to destroy us but to restore us. The tug you feel in conviction, the storm that shakes you, the voice that won't let you rest—those are not punishments, they're rescue missions.

III. The Greatness of Salvation (Verses 3-4)

A. The Source of Salvation

Salvation isn't the invention of religion—it's the intervention of God. It began in the heart of the Father, was purchased by the blood of the Son, and is applied by the power of the Holy Ghost.

B. The Confirmation of Salvation

When a liar becomes honest, when a drunkard becomes sober, when a bitter heart becomes forgiving—that's the miracle of salvation on display.

Salvation is not something to be admired—it's something to be embraced. To neglect it is to drift toward destruction, not because God pushes you there, but because the tide of sin always pulls that direction.



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IV. The Urgency of Response

There are only two directions in life—toward Christ or away from Him. You cannot remain stationary.

A. To the Believer

“Return unto Me, and I will return unto you.” (Malachi 3:7)

The tide that carries you away can also carry you home—if you’ll turn your vessel toward Christ again.

B. To the Lost

You may not hate Christ—you may even admire Him. But admiration without acceptance is neglect, and neglect is fatal.

The same Jesus who warns of drifting also offers to rescue the drifter. His hands that once calmed the storm now reach to pull you from the waves. Don’t drift past the harbor of grace.

Conclusion: Jesus is better—better than angels, religion, or anything this world can offer. But if we neglect Him, we will drift from Him. The only safe place for your soul is anchored to Christ. So anchor your heart again today. Recommit your life to Him. If you’ve drifted, return. If you’ve never trusted Christ, come while the harbor is open.



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