

The Epistle to the HEBREWS

Chapter 2

“Jesus, The Captain Of Our Salvation”

I) GOD'S WITNESS! (v1-4)

(v1a) “earnest heed”- need for continued, watchful attentiveness (lest we drift past these saving gospel truths).

(v1b) “drift away”- The picture is that of a careless, drowsy boatsman in danger of drifting past the safe haven and being carried out to sea. How can a Christian drift away? Jesus gives us insight in **Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23** (v19- Hard heart; v21- Shallow heart; v22- Unfaithful heart)

(v2) “angels”- **Acts 7:37-38** - *“This is that Moses who told the Israelites, ‘God will send you a prophet like me from your own people.’ He was in the assembly in the desert, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers; and he received living words to pass on to us. Acts 7:51-53* - *“You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit! Was there ever a prophet your fathers did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him- you who have received the law that was put into effect through angels but have not obeyed it.”*

(v3) “our great salvation . . . spoken by the Lord”- The New Covenant is stronger than the Old Covenant. It came by the Son of God. Let's not neglect it!

(v4) “God's witness”- through the Holy Spirit (i.e. Acts 3:1-19)

II) GOD'S WORLD! (v5-9)

(v5-8) **This world is not subject to angels, but all is subject to Jesus!** (**Phil 2:5-11**- *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*)

(v9) “**Jesus tasted death for everyone**”-1 **Tim 2:3-6** - *For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator*

between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, Titus 2:11-15 - *For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.*

III) GOD'S WORK OF SALVATION! (v10-18)

(v10a) “**captain**”- Pioneer, leader, originator.

(v10b) “**perfect through suffering**”- John MacArthur writes, “In His divine nature, Christ was already perfect.

However, His human nature was perfected through obedience, including suffering in order that He might be an understanding High-Priest, an example for believers (cf. 5:8,9; 7:25-28; Phil. 2:8; 1 Pet. 2:21), and establish the perfect righteousness (Matt. 3:15) to be imputed to believers (2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 3:8,19).”

(v11) “**sanctifies**”- to set one aside for Christian service and to conform one to God's holiness.

(v14) “**death**”- conquered through Jesus- i.e.- Raising of Lazarus-John 11:25-26- *Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.”*

(v15) “**fear of death**”- **swallowed up in victory!**- 1 Cor 15:53-58- *For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.*

(v16) “**give aid**”- to take hold of, as if to pull someone to safety, to rescue them.

(v17) “**propitiation**” - It is God who is “propitiated” by the vindication of His holy and righteous character, whereby through the provision He has made in the vicarious and expiatory sacrifice of Christ, He has so dealt with sin that He can show mercy to the believing sinner in the removal of his guilt and the remission of his sins. (from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)- 1 John 4:10-12- *This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.*

(v18) “**Jesus tempted**”- Matthew 4:1-11; Jesus aids us in our temptation- 1 Cor 10:13- *No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*