



Hebrews Lesson 2 Chapter 2

The twelve disciples and the others that led the way in spreading the gospel of Jesus had an extremely difficult job due to the demographics of the area at the time of Christ. The Jews were to be the original recipients of the message, but it was always intended to go forth to all nations (Genesis 12:3 and 17:4-6). Though many Jews embraced the gospel (some even secretly in fear of losing their standing in the Jewish community), many rejected its claims and stayed with the traditions of their forefathers. There were also many Samaritans and Gentiles that received the good news with open arms declaring its truths far and wide. Others vehemently rejected the gospel and its proclaimers because they preferred the freedom of indulging their flesh at their own bidding in the service of gods and goddesses of the day. But the most difficult aspect of preaching the gospel was the hostility generated in attempting to convince the Jews that compliance with the Law and its traditions was no longer necessary for righteousness. The Law was good and perfect, but due to man's sinful state, it only condemned them; it didn't justify them. Something better than angels, outward adherence to rules, following religious ceremonies, and putting their trust in their bloodline would be needed to take care of sin and judgment forever. Unfortunately, Jesus didn't fit the description of who they

wanted and believed Messiah (the savior) would be. Even though Jesus accomplished feats of human compassion that only God could do, they focused on the external evidence of His resistance to their man-made laws and His lack of power against their enemies, the Romans. Therefore, they hated Him and all those who followed and believed in Him. Identifying as a Christian was a dangerous position for these early believers. The writer of the book of Hebrews is addressing the many Jewish converts that had taken the position of believing Christ was the Messiah. These new believers had sacrificed much to make that declaration, but the continued persecution from their fellow Jews caused them to shrink back in their faith. The pressure to return to adherence to the Law to secure their standing in the community was getting to be too much, and many were compromising. They needed to be reminded once again of the insufficiency of the old covenant of works compared to the rich sufficiency of Christ in the new covenant. The writer begins in chapter 1-2 with Christ as superior over angels and continues on in the next chapters to systematically cover every old covenant requirement that the Jews accepted and compared them to the superiority of Christ. He also warns them of the severe mistake they would be making to ignore such a great salvation.

REVIEW OF CHAPTER 1

“And He is the _____ of God’s _____ and the _____
 _____ of His nature, and _____ all things by the
 _____ of His _____” Hebrews 1:3a

1. What are some of the ways that Jesus is superior to angels?

READ CHAPTER 2



“The Greek phrase “to drift away” is used of arrows slipping from the quiver, snow slipping off a landscape, or food slipping down the windpipe and causing one to choke.”
 David Guzik commentary

2. In verse 1, the word for “drift away” in the Greek is *pararrhyeo* means “to flow past a destination by being pushed along by a current; to slip away into spiritual defeat.” What does the writer say they need to do to keep that from happening? Vs. 1
3. Have you ever experienced a time of drifting away? Explain what caused that to happen, and how you combatted it?

4. *What is the warning he is giving them in verses 2-4?*
5. *The word “neglect” is amelesantes. It means “to make light of.” Read Matthew 22:1-10. How does this passage describe what it means to neglect salvation?*
6. *The writer now returns to the subject of angels and their part in God’s plan. He makes the point that the divine purpose was that man, not angels, was to have dominion over the earth. What is his main point about man’s part in the plan? Verses 5-8 How does this stress the need for Christ to be fully human?*



A heresy called Docetism which comes from the word “to seem” was being taught during the time of the early church. This heresy didn’t deny Jesus was God but that He was fully man. It taught that Jesus only seemed to be human. His body was not real but a phantom.

7. *The author continues to make his argument about the humanity of Jesus in verses 14-18. What other points does he stress to prove the humanity of Jesus and yet His superiority over angels?*

8. *Why do you think the author thinks it is fitting that the author of salvation should be made perfect by suffering? Vs. 10 What other reason does the author give for the suffering of Jesus? Vs. 18; 4:15 Why would this be important to people?*
9. *How did Jesus free us from the fear of death? Vs. 15-17*



Key Word: propitiation (NASV) atonement (NIV and KJV) - hilasterion - to conciliate; to reconcile; to restore to favor. Romans 3:23-25 and 5:9-17.

10. *Why would it be necessary for Jesus to be both God and man to make atonement for sin?*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
