

WORTH OF EVERYONE

Int.

1. Aim: To show that each individual must make decisions about obeying God and that each individual is of great worth.
2. Context of Hebrews 2
 - a. Hebrews written to encourage those who were Jews and had obeyed the Gospel.
 - b. They were having persecutions and troubles and many had decided to go back into Judaism.
 - c. In chapter one the writer had shown that Christ, our Saviour, was greater than the angels
3. Heb. Chapter 2
 - a. Danger of neglect 1–4
 - b. Worth of the individual

Discussion

I. DANGER OF NEGLECT - Heb. 2:1–4

- A. Verse 1 NKJV "Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away."
 1. "Therefore" —
 - a. Because of these things discussed God Spoke by Angels Now speaks by His Son
 - b. In Chapter 1 the exalted dignity of Jesus was explained

2. "We ought to" (Knowledge & responsibility)
 - a. Once we know better we ought to do better.
 - b. It is fit or proper
 - c. We must — we have no choice in the matter — pay attention

3. "Give the more earnest heed"
 - a. Apply your mind to this
 - b. Pay close attention Be cautious about

4. "To the things which we have heard"
 - a. Things we have been taught about God, Christ, Salvation
 - b. All that God has said in His word to us

5. "Lest we drift away"
 - a. Perchance - lest haply — by some accident - ASV "lest haply we drift away"
 - b. Drift away — ship loosed from anchor and drifting away
 - c. I Tim. 1:19 "Concerning faith have made shipwreck"
 - d. How we can let them slip
 - (1) Notice or learn importance too late
 - (2) Engrossed in business
 - (3) Pleasures of life become more important
 - (4) Ignore the truth and its application

B. Verse 2 NKJV "For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward,"

1. "For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast"
 - a. The revelation in the O.T. was through angels - Acts 7:38 & 53
 - b. Angels gave the law of Moses — Gal. 3:19
 - c. It was steadfast — firmly planted and rooted
 - d. Here is proof that the law was steadfast or binding

2. "And every transgression and disobedience received a just reward."
 - a. Transgression — walking deliberately outside the way
 - b. Disobedience — attitude of heart that produces transgression
 - c. They were punished for disobedience
 - (1) Joshua 7:25 - Israel stoned Achan for disobedience
 - (2) Deut. 19:16-21 = false witness
 - (3) Lev. 20:9,10, 13, 27
 - d. Sin is transgression — I Jn. 3:4
 - e. God has always meant what he said
 - (1) People of Noah's time - II Pet. 2:5
 - (2) Sodom & Gomorrah - 2 Pet. 2:6
 - (3) Nadab & Abihu - Lev. 10:1—2
 - (4) Adam & Eve - Gen.3

C. Verse 3 NKJV "how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,"

1. "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation...
 - a. Escape — flee out
 - b. Escape what? Punishment - Rom. 2:5
 - c. If we neglect this great salvation that is offered in Christ then we can't escape punishment!
 - d. Neglect means not to care for, disregard
 - e. Great salvation - Saves us from our sins
 - f. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Heb. 10:31

2. "Which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord"
 - a. Christ began to preach the Gospel
 - b. This salvation was first announced by Christ
 - c. Jesus was the first preacher of the gospel

3. "And was confirmed unto us by them that heard him:"
 - a. Apostles were witnesses of this preaching
 - b. They told those who did not hear him personally what Jesus said to them -
 - c. This is recorded in the book called Acts of the Apostles

D. Verse 4 NKJV "God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?"

1. "God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost,"
 - a. This is the completion of the thought began in verse 3
 - b. God bore witness of Jesus Teaching
 - c. He did it with:
 - (1) Signs and wonders - - - - Jn. 20:30,31
 - (2) Divers miracles - - - - different
 - (3) Gifts of the Holy Spirit - - - - I Cor. 12

2. "According to His own will." - as he chose to do

II. WORTH OF MAN - Heb. 2 is concerned with worth of man

- A. Numerous philosophies would destroy worth of individual
 1. Determinism - fore-ordained + Determined Heredity + Environment - fatalism
 2. Communism - individual destroyed if it conflicts with needs of the state
 3. Calvinism - destroys worth of individual - Robot - predestined

- B. Bible recognizes worth of each individual
 1. Hold's man responsible for what he is and what he does.
 2. Examples:
 - a. Adam and Eve - Gen. 3
 - b. One Talent man - Mt. 25
 - c. Prodigal son Lk. 15

3. Soul is worth more than the whole world — Matt. 16:26 "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

C. Hebrews chapter 2 makes 4 statements that show worth of man

1. **V. 8** — "Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him."
 - a. God put all things in subjection
 - b. Man has dominion over all the earth
 - c. Plant and Animal world - Gen. 1:28-30
 - d. Machine's can't replace man
 - e. Psalms 8:6-8 "You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, 7 All sheep and oxen-Even the beasts of the field, 8 The birds of the air, And the fish of the sea That pass through the paths of the seas."

2. **V. 9** - "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."
 - a. Jesus Tasted death for every man - 1 John 2:2
 - b. Not just Jew but also Gentile - Red, Black, White, Yellow
 - c. If you and I were the only ones would he have died for us? YE S
 - d. This shows the worth of man.

3. **V. 11** - "For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,"
- Jesus not ashamed to be called brethren
 - Brethren - part of same family
 - Christ consecrated himself to God.
 - The people of Christ are also consecrated to God.
 - Ties of family
 - We are of same spiritual blood
 - Therefore he is not ashamed to be regarded as a man, and to speak of men as his brother.
4. **V. 15** - "And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."
- Willing to deliver from bondage and fear of death
 - Man has fear of death - it is universal - pain, uncertainty.
 - Christians are delivered from this fear ...
 - (1) I Cor. 15:55 "O death where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"
 - (2) 2 Cor. 5:8 "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."
 - Christ delivers us from this fear of death and therefore we can face death calmly.
 - We are delivered from death itself, and brought to a place where there is no more death !

- D. Christianity shows that all men are valuable - we are living on this earth so that we can live with God in heaven after life on this world.

Conclusion

1. Don't neglect your soul
2. You and only you are responsible for the salvation of your soul
 - a. Can't blame God
 - b. Can't blame heredity or environment
 - c. Cannot blame your family, friends or anyone else
3. We have the freedom to choose - Rom. 6:16 "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"
4. Your soul is worth more than the world - Matt. 16:26 "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"
5. It is worth saving.