

Hebrews 2:1 Therefore we ought to give **the more earnest heed** to the things which we have heard, **lest at any time we should let them slip.**

Therefore, we ought to give **the more earnest heed**, in the light of what has gone before, in the first chapter, the revelation of Christ's divinity, of just who this is that is speaking, majesty, and glory, and upholding all things by the word of His power, and authority, and now greater than angles, He is at the right hand of God, He is the one who laid the foundations of this earth, and the heavens are the works of His hands. **It is he who has spoken and given the word**, and in the light of who he is, we ought to give them more earnest heed to the things which we have heard. It is our responsibility, we should be worshipful and amazed by this message, there is so much for us to reflect upon in the passage before us. Therefore, we ought to give the more earnest heed to reflect and consider.

Now it's rather interesting, the word here we ought to give them **more earnest heed**, is the **opposite of disbelief**. We ought to believe all the more to reflect and consider on the things of God and the message of salvation, until its kindness overwhelms us, until our need overwhelms us. We ought to think about these things prayerfully and reflect upon them until, by a work of the Spirit, they become ours and are so real, and we feel our need for the forgiveness of God, we feel our danger, as lost condemned souls. And we see in Calvary, the kindness of God, oh, that the second person of the glorious Trinity, should enter into time, and to suffer and die, to take the punishment due to me for my sin. And to do that for me. That's the sense of the words, therefore, we ought to give the more earnest heed, we ought to reflect upon these things, until that disbelief, that unbelief, is just shamed away.

lest at any time, we should let them slip the words that we have heard, slip here has the meaning, (heard yet not be affected.) Hear the words and not be convicted, or griped and drawn to some degree by the word, but never to act.

Today nearly all people would say have heard the message of salvation so clearly. But what did they hear? Because if they truly heard they would consider and pay attention. Part of the problem is most only know the bare outline of the Gospel but don't really know anything more. In the start of the chapter the warning is That we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, **lest at any time we should let *them* slip.**

To put off acting upon the gospel great truth is to be carried away slowly but surely, like a river current slowly pulling someone towards the dangerous rapids and sharp rocks, leading to a great fall. I once was told about just such an incident. On the great Congo River strong tugboats pull a long line of barges upstream with heavy steel cables. One time one barge got disconnected from the boat pulling it. It began slowly to drift. But on the Barge, there were those who knew what awaited them. They were heading towards the rapids. People realized they needed rescue. That if they were left to themselves, they would be dashed upon the rocks,

swept away by the current too strong for them. They began to cry out, 'help us, save us.' And the message was quickly given to the captain of the big tugboat, and he raced downstream to rescue them. They were drawn to safety.

As we give attention to the things, we hear they will draw us to safety.

Ignoring the words of Christ is just going with the current, it's like being sucked down a strong whirlpool slowly at first but then violently to a terrible end. The great danger of not listening is that we are pulled and carried away, slowly then violently forever without end. **Most people who stop going to church** who stop private devotions don't stop with a mighty whirlwind they stop gradually, and they drift further and further slowly letting the truth drift or leak from their minds. Unless we give heed to the message, the TRUTH it will **slip**, The Greek is: *a thing escapes me, slips from my mind*, in the sense of *neglect*. *But the phrase also infers LEAKING OUT. In the days ships were made of wood planks, if the planks were not close enough together the ship would leak. In the same way containers were made of wood pieces and if they were not close enough together the liquid put in would leak out.* Shallow hearers lose the benefit of the word preached, as these unseasoned vessels would leak fluid; nor can anyone hear to the saving of his soul, unless he give most earnest heed, which he will not do unless he consider the glory of the speaker, the importance of the subject, and the absolute necessity of the salvation of his soul. The word will leak out of our lives our minds our mouths and those who treat lightly will be great losers by their neglect. It's an unthinkable loss when we let the Gospel truth slip out of our minds, when the birds of the air steal away the seed.

How many people do we know who have heard many times yet not placed much value upon the Gospel truth. To neglect is not only to deny, it is not really to ignore; **it is rather to recognize, but to postpone;** or to know, and to fail to do. How we need to hold the truth before them, how we need to be a living witness before them.

Hebrews 2:2 For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and **every transgression and disobedience** received a just recompense of reward;

and every transgression and disobedience, the words are very important, **a transgression**. The Greek word translated transgression, **signifies doing the opposite**. That's what happens to us. God has made a law; we do the opposite. He has commanded us to honesty and integrity, and we do the opposite. And we lie and we practice deceit, lying in all forms, from bare face lying to white lies and excuses and exaggerations that are not true. People are lying all the time. deceit and dishonesty is right through the human hearts. God says do this; we do the opposite. That is the meaning of TRANSGRESSION. But now what is the original meaning in the Greek of **DISOBEDIENCE** it means something like this, simply not hearing or disregarding what is heard. So there are different ways of not obeying God, direct disobedience doing the exact opposite of

what he commands or disobedience in just not caring and paying attention to what He commands. The Jews of old received a just and appropriate punishment. How much more us who have spurned Gods message. Not only will all men and woman one day stand before the Lord to give and account of a mountain of Sins, on top of that what if they also trampled underfoot Gods Mercy and grace, counting it as nothing. How shall they escape... when they reject the word spoken by the Lord Himself. Look art verse 3

Hebrews 2:3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

Who is it that is speaking? It is the Lord. It's worthy to note that the instant Christ began his ministry, he was talking about repentance and remission of sins. When the 40 days of temptation were completed in the wilderness straightway Jesus went to Galilee and preached the Gospel of the Kingdom, saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

The word **neglect** from the original Greek, refers to something that matters, something that should concern us. But there's a negative particle on the front of the Greek word. In other words, *we treat this message as something that doesn't concern us something that doesn't matter.* That's what that word neglect means. If we treat as irrelevant, as nothing significant, the great message of the gospel, that Christ has come from heaven, to make an atonement for our sin, so that we may be forgiven and given new life, and put on the road to Heaven, and relate to God and love Him and walk with Him. To neglect is to say, that is of no concern. It doesn't matter. I treat it lightly, to neglect the gospel and treat it as nothing. **Don't you see the insult to God?** Don't you see the pride, and blindness I must have? That's nothing to me. I don't need that. Im not interested. What gigantic pride? What disgusting conceit to say I do not need a saviour. I do not need a heavenly friend. I reject him. I do not believe in him. I will not have him. This world is much much better than any God to me. Neglect is to despise him to treat as nothing, the way of salvation. What a foolish thing. What a terrible thing. How shall we escape if we neglect treat as irrelevant or have no concern. So great salvation.

Let's see why Salvation is so great.

The greatness of this salvation is seen in **the way in which it was purchased-** In what the cost was. This was the most costly thing ever purchased. making the whole earth was easy God said and it was, but this cost Him so very much more. It was purchased by the shed blood, by the outpoured life of Jesus Christ Himself. The value is measured by the price paid. Therefore, think of how much value souls are to Christ.

The greatness of the message is, or any work is in who is the Author. Who is the Author of Salvation. **Hebrews 5:9** *And being made perfect, he became **the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.*** The Author and giver of eternal salvation, also the Source.

If you want to read a good book you enquire who the author is. Well, the one who is the author of Salvation is high above all, more worthy than all. Named by God as our High priest. Can there be anyone, can there be anything equal to this great plan of Salvation. Salvation is great because the Author is Great.

Again, the greatness of this salvation is seen by seeing what it brings of what it brings. It brings pardon for all our sins; it brings deliverance from sin. To measure the greatness, we see what it delivers us from, what it cures us from. We are delivered from the worst possible condition, total separation from God forever. This great salvation brings us who were once far off near to Him. Saves us from Eternal punishment. But gives us the free gift of Eternal life, the gift of fellowship, it secures blessing that lasts forever that no one can take away.

The strength of a medicine is measured by what it is able to heal, some medicines are very common and very cheap. Like aspirin or Panadol they can heal from aches and pains and headaches. But there are other medicines very very powerful and very very costly. They can deliver from life threatening diseases.

What is made available through the death and resurrection of Jesus on the cross is able to deliver us from the greatest disease known to man kind, from the greatest calamity of eternal death and punishment.

The soul that sinneth it shall die. Here is the cure deliverance and forgiveness of Sin by the blood of Jesus Christ shed on Calvary.

Salvation is so great. just consider how much it does for us, it brings union with the Son of God in His resurrection life, **it brings adoption into the family of God,** it brings **an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled,** that fadeth not away.

When we think what God has freely given us in Jesus Christ, and is ready to make us heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. Can there be a more valuable gift?

This great salvation gives immediate forgiveness of every sin, Immediate peace and reconciliation with God, Immediate access by the blood of Jesus to the throne of Grace where we can find help and mercy in a time of need.

But we must ask the question, Is salvation great to us personally? Is it the biggest thing that has ever happened to us, is it the most important event in our whole life? Can I say I have become a new creation in Christ. I used to think about only what is seen and what can be touched and handled, but now I see There is none compared to Christ. I have been made a child of God I'm adopted into His family. I was lost and now I'm found. I used to walk in darkness but now, I

desire walk in the Light where He is in the Light. I have such joy that my name is written in the Lambs book of Life. I have such and assurance that when I pray, He hears me. All this comes with conversion. Is it not vast Is salvation not great? In fact Salvation is so great its above all we can think, *Now unto him, that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.* When we are born again we gain a new spiritual understanding The preaching of the cross is no longer foolishness to us, rather it is the wisdom of God unto salvation. New understanding given.

So great Salvation! It affects you, at every level of our lives. There are gains, there were losses. **What do you lose?** If you come to Christ? What will you lose when you repent of your sin and give your life to Him and be converted to him. What will you lose? Well to all that believe in Christ they will never come into the Judgement and condemnation. You lose the Judgement and condemnation of God. **John 5:24** *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*

What else will you loose? Alienation from God. Sin has separated man from God There was a great gulf between man and God. Sin had made us enemies toward God. How great the gap. But when we turn to God in repentance and when we believe the Gospel. We who were once far off. Are made near, we are brought near. **Ephesians 2:13** *But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*

When we neglect not this so great salvation we lose all separation, all alienation, from God. We are brought near to the Lord. Gains and losses. When we believe this Eternal gospel. This is the call of Christ. The call of Christ to every man and woman born.

Salvation so great cannot be kept to ourselves. Let us publish this general call to everyone, everyone must hear good news. Let us make it known widely wherever we go. The general call is to all. But only to those who are saved, only to those who neglect not so great Salvation Is it an effectual call? Does the Gospel pierce our heart? Touch our soul and draw us to him? That's what I mean effectual, May you hear dear friends, The effectual call of Christ. May Nanyuki hear the effectual call of Christ. There is nothing to be compared with conversion to him.

Let's close in prayer. Oh Lord full of Grace and truth, we come to you this lunch hour asking if there be anyone in our company who has not turned to you, if there is anyone who has neglected so great salvation. Lord we ask you come in pardoning Love, In redeeming love and grace. That today they may know your saving power. Save today all those who call upon you we ask for your name sake. Amen.

