

Hebrews Ch. 2

V. 1

-Paying close attention to the Word is something that takes time and commitment

-you can't expect to read the bible once and know it forever

-if we don't stay in the word regularly, we are in danger of drifting away from the truth

-then we wind up hearing sermons and teachings that may sound good but we have no way of knowing if they line up with the bible

-[Rom 10:17](#) So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

V.2-3

-“The Word spoken through angels” refers to the Law being given to Moses

-it seems that in some way, angels were involved in the giving of the 10 commandments on Mt. Sinai

-this is also referred to in Galatians Ch. 3

[Gal 3:19](#) Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made.

-and also mentioned twice by Stephen in Acts:

[Act 7:38](#) "This is the one who was in the congregation in the wilderness together with the angel who was speaking to him on Mount Sinai, and *who was* with our fathers; and he received living oracles to pass on to you.

[Act 7:53](#) you who received the law as ordained by angels, and *yet* did not keep it."

-the Law is unchangeable

-no matter how good you are, who your parents are or what your position in society is

-if we neglect the grace of God through what Jesus did for us, there is not possible way we will be able to escape the penalty to come

-what puzzles me is how someone can hear and understand the gospel and still neglect it

-everything has been done for us and all we have to do is believe

-yet there are multitudes of people who rather choose to live to fulfill the desires of the flesh and will ultimately pay the ultimate price for it

V.4

-This is a continuation of verse 3, referring to those people who were going out speaking and confirming the Word of God

- God often uses signs, wonders and miracles to draw people to Him

- Of course, God can choose to perform signs and wonders anytime He wants, but more often than not, they are used to show people that He is God

- I believe that's why so much of the book of Acts includes miracles performed by God's people.

- the church is just getting started and God is allowing the disciples to do great things to get the people's attention

- As the church gets established, you seem to find less and less examples of these types of events

- this isn't because the disciples have lost their faith, but rather because they have matured in their faith

- using the gifts of the Spirit is vital to the spiritual growth of a congregation

- if it is just the pastor or a small group of people in the church that use their gifts, the congregation will not mature

- these gifts are distributed to people as He wills

- it is not up to us to decide which gifts we want

- some churches will say that if you want a certain gift such as tongues, you just have to come to the front and receive it

- that's not how God designed it

V.5

-Speaking again about the authority of Christ, the author quotes from Psalm 8 telling us that even though Christ was temporarily made lower than the angels, all things would soon be put under His feet

- finding direct references to the Son of God in the Old Testament is pretty amazing considering that they were written hundreds of years before Jesus was born

V.8

-this is a sobering verse

- even though all things are subjected to Him, we don't see it all yet

- Satan still has free reign on the earth

- people still openly choose to reject Jesus

- creation is still suffering under the curse

-but this will not always be so

-soon, Satan will be cast into the lake of fire, the lion will lay down with the lamb and every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord

V.9

-the Creator humbles Himself and steps into His creation

-if you have ever wondered how bad hell is, just think about what God did to keep people from going there

-if hell wasn't that bad or if it was only temporary, God would have never sent His son to be tortured and killed to spare us from that

-if we just had to go there until we burned off our sins, if people could pray us out of hell or if hell doesn't exist at all, Jesus would have been crazy to allow Himself to die on the cross

-Before the crucifixion, Jesus prayed:

Mat 26:39 And He went a little beyond *them*, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."

-if there was any other way, He didn't want to do this

-but there wasn't so He had to taste death for everyone

-and the sad thing is, most people don't even realize what He did for them

-they treat it like it's no big deal

V.10

-this is a hard verse for me to grasp

-I understand that Jesus had to suffer and die in order to pay the penalty for our sins

-I understand that He willingly humbled Himself and chose to go to the cross

-but it is hard for me to understand how it was "fitting" for Him to accomplish our salvation through suffering

-maybe the problem comes from the word "fitting"

-when I hear that, I think of someone getting what they deserve

-like a murderer who gets the death penalty

-that is "fitting"

-the word used here has more of a positive definition which means "suitable or proper"

-this makes much more sense

-there is no one else who could have possibly been qualified to do what Jesus did

- so in that way it was proper or “fitting” that He would suffer and die to bring many sons to glory
- that was His entire mission on earth

V.11-13

-Just looking at this on the surface, it looks like Jesus and us are all created by the Father

- of course that’s not the case
- Jesus is not a created being, He is the eternal God
- notice the word “Father” is in italics
- that means this word is not in the original manuscript
- it was added to make the sentence flow better in English
- if you take that away, you realize that we are all of the same family, the family of God

-even though He is our God, He did call us His brothers and sisters and we now have the same Father He does

Mat 12:46 While He was still speaking to the crowds, behold, His mother and brothers were standing outside, seeking to speak to Him.

Mat 12:47 Someone said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You."

Mat 12:48 But Jesus answered the one who was telling Him and said, "**Who is My mother and who are My brothers?**"

Mat 12:49 And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, "**Behold My mother and My brothers!**"

Mat 12:50 "**For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother.**"

V.14-15

-sometimes we may be tempted to think that God can’t really relate to the problems we face here on earth

- even though He created us, He is in heaven and we are down here
 - but Jesus can relate to our struggles
 - while He was on earth, the bible says
- Heb 4:15** For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.

-it says “since we partake in flesh and blood, He Himself partook of the same”

-Jesus knows exactly what every struggle, joy, victory, pain, and emotion you experience feels like

-this is why He became a man, so that ultimately through death, He could render him powerless who had the power of death

-that could not have happened while Jesus was in heaven because He needed a physical mortal body to die

-Jesus not only freed us from the power of death itself, but from being a slave of sin

Rom 6:17 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed,
Rom 6:18 and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

-that's not to say that we won't ever sin again, but sin's power has lost its hold on us

-as long and we live in a fleshly body, we will struggle with sin

-there are large groups of "Christians" out there who say that they can live without sin

-they say that if you choose to commit even one sin, you are no longer a biblical Christian and are a child of the devil

-Paul says:

Rom 7:15 For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I *would* like to *do*, but I am doing the very thing I hate.

Rom 7:16 But if I do the very thing I do not want *to do*, I agree with the Law, *confessing* that the Law is good.

Rom 7:17 So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.

Rom 7:18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good *is* not.

Rom 7:19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.

Rom 7:20 But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.

-and if Paul still struggled with desires of the flesh, we will too

V.16

-if God is a God of grace and love, why doesn't he offer extend the offer of grace and redemption to the angels that have fallen?

-angels were created in a perfect environment and spent their entire existence in the spiritual realm in the presence of God

-when they chose to rebel against God, they weren't tricked or deceived like Adam and Eve were

-their choice to rebel against God was not like man's choice today to rebel against God

-man has many forces acting upon him trying to convince him that God doesn't exist or doesn't love him

-the angels were constantly in the presence of God and had to take nothing by faith

V.17

-for that reason, Jesus didn't become an angel to save the angels, but became a man to humanity

-in order for someone to effectively help someone else, they need to be able to understand and sympathize with their situation

-if you use to be an alcoholic, you will be able to relate much better to people who struggle with drinking than someone who has never had that problem

-if your life is a financial disaster and you need help, you will get much better advice from someone who has been there and can tell you how he overcame that than you will from someone who inherited 10 million dollars at the age of 18 and has never had a job.

-the author emphasizes this again in 4:15

[Heb 4:15](#) For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are, yet* without sin.