

8/7/25

I grew up in Florida. I loved to go to the beach. But when I was in the water, I always had to pay close attention to where my stuff was on the sand. It was my anchor. Otherwise, the current would gradually pull me down the beach. I could be 100 yards away before I realized how far down I had drifted. The same thing can happen in our relationship with the Lord when we don't pay attention to what He teaches us. His word is our anchor. Without it, we can drift away from Him. The wonderful thing is, we never drift so far away that His loving arms can't draw us back when we ask for His help. I'm so thankful for His mercy!!!

Blessings, Jonna

Hebrews 2:1-9

Vs. 1 ~ "Therefore..." since chapter 1 tells me that Jesus is superior to the angels... created beings who are there to serve as His ministers... I need to "pay much closer attention" to everything Jesus says.

Before I consider needing to pay attention to His words, I want to consider the fact that He's superior to the angels. When John wrote the book of Revelation, he tried to bow and worship an angel two times. The angels must look so incredibly majestic and powerful, especially considering how ordinary man looks. But angels are not to be worshiped. Both times John tried to worship an angel, the angel told him to stop. The angel said to John, "You must not worship me! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God" (Revelation 22:9). Jesus is God. Worship JESUS.

Therefore, I need to pay MUCH CLOSER ATTENTION to His words... I am always at risk of drifting away from them. I have to be intentional. Otherwise, I will drift away from Him just like a boat on the ocean will be pulled away by the current if it's not intentionally moving in the direction it needs to go.

Vs. 2-4 ~ What was the message declared by angels? I had to get help for this from a

commentary. I did not realize this, but several verses in scripture show that the Lord used angels to give the law to Moses. Deuteronomy 33:2 speaks of God coming with thousands of His holy ones (angels), and both Acts 7:53 and Galatians 3:19 say that the Israelites received the law "delivered by angels." The law was reliable and just. No law was given with deceptive or evil intent... and every consequence for not keeping the law was just... because God is reliable and just.

If the message of the law, delivered by angels who are inferior to Jesus, was so reliable and just... and those who disobeyed it were justly held accountable... how much more reliable and just is the consequence for neglecting salvation through Jesus??? The King of kings and Lord of lords stepped down from His throne in heaven and gave Himself as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of mankind. The Father sent His Son to be that sacrifice. There is no way He would have let His Son suffer like He did if there was any other way! He will not ignore the rejection of His Son. Would any parent? Most parents would not even consider letting their child sacrifice their lives for those who hate them.

God the Father testified to the fact that Jesus is His Son, first by speaking openly of His love for His Son when He was baptized. He also showed signs and wonders while Jesus was preaching the gospel for three years. And when Jesus died on the cross, God brought darkness to the earth, He caused an earthquake, He rose from the dead people who loved Lord, and He split the curtain of the temple from top to bottom. Because of Jesus, ordinary people who put their faith in Him would no longer be separated from His presence. And the Holy Spirit was at work the whole time, resting on Jesus, leading Him, and empowering Him. God's plan was an all hands on deck mission. And He fulfilled His purpose. I need to pay attention to that. I need to stop thinking that I have any power within myself to accomplish anything apart from God.

Vs. 5-9 ~ It is not angels who will have the world come under their authority. It is Jesus. The author of Hebrews quotes Psalm 8:4-6, a prophecy of Jesus written about 1000 years before He came. It was always the plan that Jesus would empty Himself of His glory for a time, and come in the likeness of man. God the Father cares for Him, even though for a time He was made lower than the angels. But now Jesus is crowned with glory and honor on His throne. Everything and everyone will bow to Him as Lord. After humbling Himself to the point of death on a cross, Philippians 2:9-11 says, "Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." The Lord will make His enemies, those who neglect so great a salvation, Jesus' footstool. ALL people will bow to Him as Lord.

"Nothing is out of His control." Jesus has authority over ALL. But right now, it's hard because I can't see it. Even as I read passages like Jeremiah 9:24 that say He "practices steadfast love, justice and righteousness in the earth... and delights in them", I look at all the hatred and unrighteousness, and injustice in the world... and I get confused. This is why I need to pay MUCH MORE ATTENTION to His word. His word tells me that the world will get worse before Jesus comes.

Right now, I DON'T see everything and everyone bowing at His feet... but I do see JESUS. I can see the gospel. I know that He ascended into heaven where He took His rightful place on the throne. I see that He tasted death for everyone. When I struggle with doubt, I remember the gospel and ask the Lord for help... and He reminds me of the truth. That is what removes my doubt... remembering the gospel.

How do I need to respond to this passage? Pay much closer attention to God's perfect, truthful word.