

SERMON-BASED STUDY: GOSPEL FOCUS

Hebrews 2:1-16, ESV – Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. ² For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, ⁴ while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will. ⁵ For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. ⁶ It has been testified somewhere, “What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him?” ⁷ You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, ⁸ putting everything in subjection under his feet.” Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. ⁹ But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰ For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹ For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, ¹² saying, “I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.” ¹³ And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Behold, I and the children God has given me.” ¹⁴ Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham.

Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 What does it mean to *drift away* or *neglect* God's message of salvation, and what are the potential consequences? Why is the gospel of Jesus our only hope?
- 2 In what way did Jesus become perfect through suffering? How is this connected with His gospel?
- 3 Why was it necessary for Jesus to become fully human and experience death? How does this enable Him to intercede on our behalf?

DIGGING DEEPER

A **Galatians 4:4-7, ESV** – ⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

- 4 How did Jesus, being *born of a woman* and *born under the law*, fulfill the requirements of the Law for those who were under it?
- 5 In what ways are believers no longer slaves but sons and heirs of God? How should this truth influence your identity?
- 6 How can we avoid falling back into the slavery of the law and instead walk in the freedom and sonship found in Christ?

B **Romans 6:8-14, ESV** – ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³ Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

7 What does it mean for a believer to be *dead to sin* and *alive to God* in Christ? How is this connected to His death and resurrection?

8 If sin is no longer our master, and we are now united with Christ in His death and resurrection, why do we still struggle with sin in our lives?

9 What does it mean to offer your body to God as instruments of righteousness, and what are some practical actions you can take to do this?

TAKING IT HOME

In what ways can we ensure that we are not neglecting the gospel of Christ? What are some practical steps to remind yourself of Jesus' sacrifice when you face challenges?

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 8:4-6

John 1:14

Romans 11:36

1 Corinthians 15:20-27

2 Corinthians 5:21

2 Timothy 2:11-12