



**April 12, 2026**

## **Anchored: Finish!**

Hebrews 1:1–4 (ESV)

### **The Supremacy of God’s Son**

**1** Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, **2** but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. **3** He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, **4** having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Hebrews 2:1–4 (ESV)

### **Warning Against Neglecting Salvation**

**2** 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.

How does a committed follower of Jesus just abandon him? How can someone whose faith had been the very center of their life, suddenly decide that faith was nothing?

- If there's one book in the Bible that was expressly written to deal with this question, it's the book of Hebrews.
- We don't know who wrote the book. In fact, they may not have even written it down as a letter to be read. The whole thing reads more like a sermon than a letter. A lot of people will refer to whoever is behind this book, not as the author, but as the preacher.
- We do know who the book was written to: **A congregation that is exhausted.**
- The threat is that in being worn down and worn out, they will finally drop the rope they've been holding, keeping them anchored, and just drift away.
- Does that sound like a problem we have today? *I'm just tired.*

The wisdom we will find in Hebrews, will be just what we need as tired people. People who know that God didn't just call us to start the race of faith, but to finish it.

- How do we do that? The preacher will give us the answer even in the way he starts the book.

Hebrews begins like no other NT book or letter. There is no greeting here. No prayer. No thankfulness to the people he's addressing. Just majesty. Listen to how lofty it is.

- Hebrews 1:1-2 (ESV) *1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son...whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.*
- And all this pomp and circumstance lands on just one figure: Jesus.

Consider that Jesus, God's Son...is greater.

- In the past God spoke to us a piece at a time.
- But now, we get the complete picture of God.
- How? By the word of his Son. Jesus speaks. And his message is greater than even the collective message of all the prophets who have ever come before.

Consider that Jesus, God's Son...is the heir of everything.

- Jesus is the heir, not just of the riches of heaven, but everything that is. Every star. Every mountain. Every river. Every beach. And every life. Every soul.
- Psalm 2:8 *says the ends of the earth are his possession.*

- Being an heir means you have the authority. Jesus is the heir of all things means he's the authority of all things. All things includes you.
- Hebrews starts where we all have to start. with Jesus on the throne with all authority. Who is on the throne of your heart?

Consider that Jesus, God's Son...is upholding everything.

- Everything that is, is sustained by the powerful *word* of the Son.
- Just a few lines from this the preacher will quote Psalm 102 (Heb 1:10) and say of Jesus: *You laid the foundations of the earth...*
- Without Jesus, nothing would exist. Without Jesus, you wouldn't exist.
- What's that picture like? Can you see Jesus that way? Is he big enough?

Consider that Jesus, the Son...is God himself.

- *He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature.*
- The implicit statement is that Jesus, the Son, is **God**.
- He is the exact imprint of God. The greek word here is *character*. It means to copy or to stamp or to inscribe. The character of the reigning ruler of the day would be inscribed or stamped into the coins everyone used.
- The word tells us that the being of God is really in Christ. God is stamped into Jesus.
- Do you want to know who God is? Just look at Jesus.
- One more detail about this Jesus who is God is what he did for us. This is what makes him better than angels, or all the prophets before him, or priests before him, or any other king: he is the great high priest who provided us purification for sin.

Here's the preacher's punch: If Jesus is all these things, then why in the world would we ever walk away from him?

- The author of Hebrews doesn't respond to spiritual weariness by offering a checklist of good advice on how to recover the joy of the Lord. The author doesn't offer a sub-stack article with five easy steps to a vibrant faith.
- He has the absolute guts to stand before tired people who want to quit...and just give them **Jesus**. He offers Jesus.

The preacher knows what it takes to finish.

- The argument he starts...that Jesus is better than the prophets and angels...will take us all the way to chapter 2.
- In chapter, he says: 2:1-4: *Therefore (If Jesus is this awesome.) we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, 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, while*

*God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.*

- He talks about “*what we have heard.*” It’s Jesus’s own message. We’re talking about the gospel message.
- And what does the preacher say to do with it? Here it is: “*Pay much closer attention to it.*” Why? *So that we do not drift away.*”
- The word *attention* literally means *obsession (prosecho)*. *It’s not out of bounds to say addicted.*
- Then *much closer* is the word *perissoteros* and means to *attach* yourself to something or someone.
- So we have a line telling us to be furiously obsessed, even addicted, **to the gospel message.**
- It’s when we fail to remember this gospel, that’s when we drift. That’s when we quit.
- We forget to fix our eyes on who Jesus is and what Jesus has done.
- We forget that the race isn’t just to be started. It’s to be finished.
- It’s a good ending point...but we can’t end there. Because the preacher goes on here to tell us why it’s so important to drive the gospel deeper into our being every day.
- He says, *For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable.*
- It was said that God’s law was given to the people by angels.
- He’s not saying anything bad about God’s law here. Quite the opposite. He’s holding it up as binding. It is.
- Every disobedience brings consequences. Every violation of God’s law brings punishment.
- The preachers argument here is that if disobeying God’s original commandments would bring such disastrous consequences to our life, ***then how much more damage*** would we invite into our lives if we neglect the gospel, the final word of God’s salvation, brought by Jesus?
- In Jesus, you don’t just have some commands to help keep you good, you have a complete salvation.
- And the preacher says: **HOW IN THE WORLD WILL SOMEONE ESCAPE** if they neglect that?
- They won’t.
- The secret: Fix your eyes on Jesus. Look at Jesus. Obsess over Jesus. Attach every thought to Jesus. Just Jesus. The authority. The sustainer. The last word. God’s exact imprint. Your complete, finished, salvation.
- In Him is the power to not just start the race...but finish it.

*God we want to be faithful, even when we’re tired. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus...the author and perfecter of our faith. That’s the answer when we want to quit. Let us see him as he is... and keep running...even if it be with a limp. Remind us of your grace every day. In the name of the one who sustains everything by the power of his word, the name of God’s Son, Jesus, we pray. Amen.*