# Hebrews 2:1-18 Danger of Drifting away – Christ our Faithful High Priest

Danger of drifting away – Evidence of eye-witness and divine Testimonies

<sup>1</sup> Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. <sup>2</sup> For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, <sup>3</sup> how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, <sup>4</sup> God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

# All things in subjection under feet of Christ Jesus

<sup>5</sup> For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels. <sup>6</sup> But one testified in a certain place, saying:

"What is man that You are mindful of him, Or the son of man that You take care of him? 7 You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, And set him over the works of Your hands. 8 You have put all things in subjection under his feet." [Psalm 8:4-6]

For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.

# Jesus was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death

<sup>9</sup> But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

#### Christ perfected through suffering to be the faithful High Priest

<sup>10</sup> For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup> For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, <sup>12</sup> saying:

"I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You."

13 And again:

"I will put My trust in Him."

And again:

"Here am I and the children whom God has given Me."

<sup>14</sup> Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. <sup>16</sup> For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted. NKJV

# Facts Revealed: Danger of drifting away – Evidence of eye-witness and divine Testimonies [Hebrews 2:1-4]

- Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. [Hebrews 2:1]
  - ♦ Scriptures are replete with expressions of the danger of falling into unbelief and the loss of all that God had intended for the faithful believers.
  - ♦ It is possible for a person who has come to Christ for Salvation to become so deceived by the influence of the world around them that they become unbelievers, just as the Children of Israel who had first hand witnessed the deliverance of God, only to fall into unbelief and loose their chance to enter the Promised Land.
  - ☆ The first concern of Jesus is to warn His people to beware, lest you be deceived. [Matthew 24:4, 11, 24, Mark 13:5, 22, Luke 21:8]
  - ♦ This concern was also voiced by Moses, the prophets, and the New Testament writers. [Deuteronomy 11:16, Jeremiah 29:8-9, Romans 16:18, 1 Corinthians 3:18-19, 6:9-10, 15:33, 2 Corinthians 11:3, Galatians 6:7, Ephesians 5:6, Colossians 2:4, 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 1 Timothy 4:1-2, 2 Timothy 3:13, 1 John 3:7-8, Revelation 13:14]
- For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? [Hebrews 2:2-4]
  - ♦ Judgments against Israel in the past for their disobedience, proves to be an example of the danger today for Christians who drift away falling into unbelief and fail to obey the commandments of Jesus.
  - ☆ The Gospel message came first from Jesus, then by the eyewitness accounts of the Apostles, and was accompanied by the testimony of God himself by spoken voice from heaven, and with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will. [Hebrews 2:4, 1 Corinthians 12:11]
  - ♦ Believers are called to give special earnest attention to the requirements of the Gospel message we originally received from Jesus and the eye witness testimony of the Apostles as recorded in the Bible, His Holy Word.
  - $\diamond$  Negligence on our part is dangerous with eternal consequences.

All things in subjection under feet of Christ Jesus [Hebrews 2:5-8]

- $\clubsuit$  God has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels.
- The subjection of all things has been placed under the feet of Jesus Christ.
  - ♦ Paul then quotes Scripture to confirm his statement:
  - ☆ "What is man that You are mindful of him, Or the son of man that You take care of him? You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, And set him over the works of Your hands. You have put all things in subjection under his feet." [Psalm 8:4-6]
- For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.
  - ☆ Though God has made all things subject to Christ, we do not see it to be so in the world today as evil abounds everywhere and has through the time since Jesus was on the earth.
  - ♦ (God has a time appointed when it will be manifest to all, and that time will be at the return of Jesus Christ to set up His Kingdom on this earth to reign for a Thousand years of perfect environment and perfect government, then eternally on the New Earth God will bring on the day of final Judgment.) [Isaiah 25:8, 1 Corinthians 15:26, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Revelation 21:5, John 14:1-3, 1 Corinthians 2:6-10, 1 Peter 1:3-5, Isaiah 66:17-19, Revelation 21:1, Isaiah 66:20-22, Hebrews 2:5, 11:8-10, 13-16, 2 Peter 3:13, Hebrews 12:22-27, 13:14, Revelation 21:2, 9-23, 3:12] and many more Scriptures.
  - During that time we will see that all things are indeed made subject under the feet of Christ. For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. [1 Corinthians 15:22-28]

Jesus was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death

- But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. [Hebrews 2:9]
  - ♦ God had a purpose in sending God the Word into the world in the form of a man whom we know as Jesus the Christ (Whom the angels identified to the shepherds the day of His birth as "Messiah Jehovah," and Messianic Jews call "Yeshua ha'Mashiach").
  - ♦ God the Word through Whom all creation was made, is a spirit being, and it is impossible for Him to die, therefore, for God the Word to die for the sins of the world, he needed to prepare a mortal body to dwell in that could die, and the body He prepared for Himself is the body of Jesus Christ.
  - Thus God the Word, Jesus was indeed made a little lower than angels, for the suffering of death, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.
  - $\diamond$  Because of His obedience Jesus is crowned with glory and honor.

Christ perfected through suffering to be the faithful High Priest [Hebrews 2:10-18]

- Perfect means, complete in every way. Since God can not die, He felt incomplete in regard to experiencing death which mortals experience, so by creating for Himself a mortal body, God could experience death, and that was not a wasted exercise, because through His own death, God provided Salvation for all mankind who would believe.
- For it was fitting for Him (God the Word), for Whom are all things and by Whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. [Hebrews 2:10]
  - $\diamond$  All things were created by Jesus and for Jesus as God the Word.
  - ♦ Jesus as the captain of their Salvation, was made Perfectly complete by His death, and through that death He brought many sons to glory.
- For both He (Jesus) who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified (the believers) are all of one, for which reason He (Jesus) is not ashamed to call them brethren. [Hebrews 2:11]
  - $\diamond$  Paul then quotes Scripture to confirm his statement:

"I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You." [Hebrews 2:12, Psalm 22:22]

# And again:

"I will put My trust in Him." [Hebrews 2:13, Psalm 91:2]

# And again:

"Here am I and the children whom God has given Me." [Hebrews 2:13, Isaiah 8:18]

- Because mankind has experienced flesh and blood, God Himself shared in the same, with the purpose that through His death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil. [Hebrews 2:14]
- By His death, Christ released mortals from the bondage of the devil who kept them in fear of death. [Hebrews 2:15]

♦ Death itself is the last enemy to be destroyed. [1 Corinthians 15:26, Revelation 20:14]

- For indeed He (God) does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of
  Abraham. [Hebrews 2:16]
  - ♦ Angels have all seen God and know God exists having been in His presence from the day of their creation as spirit beings, and therefore there is no Salvation provided for them if they sin.
  - ☆ Men who have not seen God, have Salvation provided by God through Jesus for those who believe and in faith trust the written record of the revelations of God, the Holy Scriptures.
  - ♦ The seed of Abraham are those who believe what God has said, like Abraham, who believed God's Word and obeyed God. [Romans 4:13-25, Galatians 3:5-9]

- Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation (atonement) offering forgiveness for the sins of the people. [Hebrews 2:17]
  - ♦ By becoming fully human in his prepared body, fully experiencing our suffering and weakness, God had to be made like us, that in Judgment He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest, fully understanding us from our own human point of reference.
  - ♦ Because God Himself in Jesus has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid (understand) those who are tempted.
  - ♦ God in Christ Jesus does indeed understand us fully, He was one of us, but without sin. [Hebrews 4:15, 7:26]
  - $\diamond$  We desperately need to understand Him, and can understand Him by believing His Word.
  - $\diamond$  God's judgment of us will be totally righteous, just, and merciful.
  - ☆ Are you standing firm in the faith, fully believing God's Word, or are you wavering with doubts generated by the unbelievers around us in this worldly society of today?