



Hebrews 2:1-4

Warning: Don't Drift 🔥 Sun, Oct 21st 2007

Imagine with me – you are a captain of an ancient ship 🖥️

Imagine being on a transatlantic journey – that easily lasts two to three months. Your concerns would be many – the seaworthiness of your ship, the wind, the sails and more.

But one of your major concerns would daily be to know – if you are on course. See, you would know that one does not have to choose to turn the wrong direction to miss the aim of your journey – all that has to happen – is you drift off course.

Therefore day and night – literally – you would use every tool at your disposal to make sure you were on course. 🖥️

Is this a serious matter – YES – tales could be told of thousands of ships that have gone off course – many to their demise

If you understand danger – on track to understand the warning found in our passage this morning in Hebrews

- Would you look in Word of God w/me – **Heb 2** 🖥️

As prepare to dive into text – know it has a context

- In fact, first word draws us to “**Therefore**”
 - Connective – to what went before
- **v.1-3** – Jesus God’s final word – full
- **v.3-4** – Fullness of who Jesus is
- **v.4-11** – Better than angels – everything
- “**So great a salvation**” – great phrase....
 - Awesome, wonderful – better than anything

I. Danger of Drifting, Missing

1. 1st question must be: Who is this warning to?

- a. Debated, adamantly—Christian or non, almost Christian?
- b. Me—I love God's Word— writes w/broad application
- c. **Apply to unbelievers** – possible to drift to hell
- d. **Can apply to believers** – possible to drift from fullness
- e. **More clearly – this applies to us....to you**
 - i) Notice “we” –you and me. Applies to everyone here
 - ii) Listen this morning, not just for others...but self

2. Fearful thought...is possible to Drift

- a. Throughout Hebrews – many warnings against refusing, rejecting, hardening to Christ
- b. This one holds me as altogether fearful
- c. Can miss Christ not just by firm rejection
- d. But you can drift – almost imperceptibly away
 - i) Can be to drift off course from goal
 - ii) Also used for drifting out of port, not anchored

3. What are the consequences of drifting

- a. **v.2** – God was serious about OT revelation
 - i) When they drifted off course-consequences
- b. **v.3** – but we have a greater, greatest revelation
 - i) Do we think we would escape consequences
 - ii) Unbeliever – hell; Believer – loss, discipline

4. What causes us to drift

- a. Doesn't say in text – could be many things
 - i) Things like world, satan, flesh, offenses, etc
- b. But – is not point. Are you drifting, correct course

II. Cure for Drifting

1. First – v.1- **we must give earnest heed**

- a. **Heed** – idea of pay attention, apply one's self – seek.
Hold to, fix to (mind, ship) – seek
- b. Actively holding to – not passive - intensive

Katie and I paddling out to submarine. Paddled back in....kept moving in the current. Pretty soon, seemed half our work was to stay on course and half to paddle to shore.

2. Second - Notice “**must give earnest heed**”

- a. What called to not optional, nor natural (drifting is)
 - i) Word for must – intense – absolutely have to
- b. Simple – if not pressing after Christ – drifting
 - i) Rehoboam  Daniel, David, Paul

3. Third – **give ...heed to the things we have heard**

- a. One sense all of chap 1, more- described in v.3-4
- b. I believe is more – it is also how to stay on course

4. 1st - **We Must Give Earnest Heed to Christ**

- a. Main thing – to be kept the main thing- 1st love
- b. Over and over in Hebrews – consider, fix gaze on
- c. It is all about Jesus – keeping focused on
- d. Daily it is a needed correction

5. 2nd – **We Must Give Earnest Heed to Word of God**

- a. End of v.3 describes the eyewitnesses – what have here in Bible – John describes in 1 John
- b. Bible does not become an aim – but tool
- c. Jesus reminded us that Bible is about Him
- d. Bible is our chart book, keep us heading for Jesus

6. 3rd – We Must Give Earnest Heed to God's Witness

a. When does God do this?

- i) Debated - Talking then or now?
- ii) Notice – bearing – present– not bore - today

b. How does God bear witness to us – definitions

- i) **Sign** – like direction sign – point to, direct
- ii) **Wonder** – something that causes us to wonder
- iii) **Miracles** – impossible things naturally
- iv) **Gifts of Spirit** – working through believers

c. Where does God bear witness

- i) Key some feel God not working today-don't see
- ii) Problem – we live in entertainment generation
 - A. We want to see it live- sun morning
- iii) But Biblically – most miracles happen privately
 - A. Jesus often discouraged even telling
 - B. Knew what kind of followers that brought
- iv) Yet God does do...is, has – in this room many

d. Notice – Who – this is God's work...not ours

- i) Notice – happens according to His will
- ii) Not something we can organize, cause
- iii) Paul healed many – not all, all the time

e. Context – God will work to help keep you from drifting

- i) Put signs, wonders, miracles, gifts in path
- ii) Little things, big things
- iii) Even use a pastor – gift – feeling like he is up there talking about you – who told him

Conclusion

Drifting – it is a serious matter

Some of you are drifting

Some – drifting to hell

- Not rejecting this salvation....just neglecting it
- Imagine someone with tuberculosis
 - Goes to doctor – gets cure
 - Some go to hell –willfully rejecting the cure
 - Some by drifting – neglecting cure

John MacArthur: Hell is undoubtedly full of people who were never actively opposed to Jesus Christ, but who simply neglected the gospel..... Most people do not go headlong and intentionally into hell. They drift into it. Most people do not deliberately, in a moment, turn their backs on God... they just slowly, almost imperceptibly slip past the harbor of salvation out to eternal destruction.

C. S. Lewis: “as a matter of fact, if you examined a hundred people who had lost their faith in Christianity, I wonder how many of them would turn out to have been reasoned out of it by honest argument? Do not most people simply drift away?”

Jesus said it this way – **Luke 13:24-27** 

Bible promises – seek the Lord while He may be found
God says – if you seek Me, you will find Me

Again – being saved does not exempt you from warning

Some of you who are Christians – are drifting

- Saved – but missing all God has
- Not intentionally missing as if you were telling God no, you don't want His best
- But you are drifting – carried along by life
- If not intentionally pursuing Christ – you are drifting

God's call to Seek Him and find Him – is to you too

Don't let satan beat you up with this

- Don't sit there and say...yet that's me...just a drifter...guess that is what I am
- NO! – If, when drift – correct course
- Have to do so – continually – don't give up