

**HEBREWS:  
CHRIST IN ALL OF SCRIPTURE  
AMEN BIBLE STUDY 2017-2018**

**Listen Up!  
Hebrews 2:1-4  
September 28, 2017**

**:1a I. Listen up, because of what I have said before.**

*Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, ....*

- A. This is it!
- B. Jesus is better than angels.

**:2-4 II. Listen up, because of what I say now.**

**:2 A. That was great.**

*<sup>2</sup> For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, ...*

1. Great message = Law

- a) Straight edge                      Romans 3:20
- b) Curb                                      I Timothy 1:8ff
- c) Target                                    Psalm 19:7

2. Great messengers = angels

- a) Galatians 3:19
- b) Deuteronomy 33:2
- c) Acts 7:53

3. Great danger

- a) Transgression
- b) Disobedience
- c) Retribution

**:3-4 B. This is greater.**

*... <sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.*

1. Greater message = salvation

2. Greater messengers

- a) The Lord
- b) Those who heard  
cf. John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13
- c) God also  
cf. John 5:36-38; 10:37-38
- d) The Holy Spirit

3. Greater danger

- a) We/us
- b) neglect

:1b **III. Listen up, because of the consequences if we don't.**

*... lest we drift away from it.*

### **Discussion Questions**

1. (v. 1) What do you think the author of Hebrews has in mind when he writes “Therefore”? How might you paraphrase his reasoning to ground the conclusion he comes to in this verse?
2. (v. 2) How do you think the Old Testament is inferior to the New Testament? Does your answer agree with what this author writes in 2:2?
3. (v. 3) Where else in the Bible do you find salvation described in terms of “escape”? From what do we need to escape? On a scale of 1 (low) to 10 (high), how would you rate your confidence that you will make that escape?
4. (vv. 3-4) The writer cites 4 messengers of God’s great salvation in these verses. Who are the four, and which of them is the most surprising to you today? How does that messenger attest the message of salvation, and why does that surprise you?
5. (vv. 1-4) These verses make an argument for paying very careful attention to what we have heard. The argument takes the form of “how much more” in comparing what we have heard to what the Old Testament saints heard. It moves from the lesser to the greater, following reasons introduced by the word “for” in verse 2. How would you paraphrase that argument, and how persuasive is it to you today? What word in verse 1 shows most clearly that a comparison between two things is being made, and what is that comparison?
6. (v. 1) In addition to “therefore” in verse 1 and “for” in verse 2, there is a third word used to influence our response to these 4 verses. What is that word, and how does it get our attention and influence our response?

### **Going Deeper**

1. Who is one person you know and love whom you suspect is “neglecting” God’s offer of salvation in his Son (2:3)? What is one thing you could do to help warn them, and why did you think of that particular thing? Should you do it this week? (Read Luke 16:19-31. Does that passage make you more eager to warn your neighbor or less? Is that the answer the passage intends you to make?)
2. Although you now believe you are listening carefully to God’s word in Jesus, what might Satan do to distract you and cause you to drift away? Having identified those points of potential weakness, how might you set to work to fortify those danger points in your defenses?