



## Lesson #1: Avoid the Dangers of Drifting (Hebrews 2:1-5)

The truth is that somewhere along the line things often begin to change. Purpose and philosophy get lost in the mire of time and we begin to drift. Sad to say this can also happen to Christians. Dangers and hidden weaknesses go \_\_\_\_\_ until they are too late. The problem is not a new one. How many Old Testament saints failed to finish well, falling to one kind of evil or another?

As we open to Hebrews 2, I believe the author is concerned with the dangers of drifting. This is a danger that every Christian faces and thus we do well to listen more carefully to the message that God has for us in the person and work of His Son. Hebrews 2:1-5 is a provocative, arrasting, convicting, section of God's Word. It is written to challenge us specifically that **we dare not** \_\_\_\_\_!

### YOU MUST AVOID THE \_\_\_\_\_ THAT CAUSE DRIFTING

The author of Hebrews is concerned that the waves of the world will cause us to drift. That's why he uses \_\_\_\_\_ language in this text.

- "Earnest heed" (2:1) – That word was used to describe how the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ship would seek to guide it into the peer.
- "Let them slip" (2:1) – That word literally refers to letting the lines slip from off the \_\_\_\_\_ so that the boat is now free floating.

#### A. The current of \_\_\_\_\_

Drifting is a most dangerous problem because it is an unconscious effort that really requires no effort. As time passes we gradually lose our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The burden of Hebrews is that believers not stop short of God's best for their life of holiness, serving, and fruit bearing (Hebrews 6:1).

#### B. The current of \_\_\_\_\_

These people were not being addressed because they were \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel but because they were \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel. As we become more and more familiar with the truth the danger is that it becomes common place to us.

### YOU MUST BE AWARE OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ CAUSED BY DRIFTING

There is a problem being exposed here. One person wisely said, "Drifting is the quietest, easiest, most delightful way of \_\_\_\_\_."

#### A. This is an \_\_\_\_\_ problem

Drifting can be traced throughout the pages of the NT. The Spirit of God tells us of 1<sup>st</sup> century brothers and sisters who slipped away.

- 1 John 2:19 – "They went out from us, but they were not \_\_\_\_\_."
- 2 Timothy 4:10 – The Apostle Paul mourns in the dank dungeon and says, "Demas hath \_\_\_\_\_ me."

There is nothing that grieves the heart of the believer like seeing other brothers and sisters that were once faithful now \_\_\_\_\_. The author of Hebrews would address that very problem in 3:12-13.

#### B. This is an \_\_\_\_\_ problem

Consider this word "drifting." It means to float by. It's what a piece of bark or a leaf does in the water. It takes no life and no motion. One need only do \_\_\_\_\_, and you will float by. Hebrews then tells us to vigilantly pay closer attention to the Word of God lest we become drifters.

### YOU MUST ACCEPT THE \_\_\_\_\_ CHRIST GIVES TO DRIFTERS

Any of these currents can slowly move us away from the Lord and His great salvation if we are not careful!

#### A. You are responsible to \_\_\_\_\_

In this passage we are told to be more earnest than those who heard the Word of God spoken through angels, namely the Israelites, because we have the Word of God spoken through the \_\_\_\_\_. You place yourself in a dangerous position when you tune out God's Word when it is being proclaimed to you whether it be through song, devotions, or a sermon.

#### B. You are responsible to \_\_\_\_\_

You must give "\_\_\_\_\_ " to the task at hand. Peter tells us that you cannot be half-hearted in this. "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith ... " (2 Peter 1:5-8). Are you giving deliberate effort to seeking God? How much attention have you given to understanding His Word?

### Concluding Thoughts

Salvation and the gift of God's Word are the most beautiful gifts of all because they have to do with our eternal destiny! Don't let it drift! Don't \_\_\_\_\_ your walk with God! Don't get distracted with other things, even with good things. One person wisely summarized Hebrews 2:1-5 this way: "You are either drifting with regard to your salvation because of \_\_\_\_\_ or you are growing because of deliberate \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_."