

# Letter to the **Hebrews**



## Lesson 2-Christ's Power and Saving Glory

**Focus:** Hebrews 2:1-18

- **Will we take seriously the Lord's offer of salvation to us? (v.1-4)**
  - Paul begins his thoughts here with "Therefore!" That is, in light of the eternal unchanging God! In light of the love that even the angels have for us as their brethren! In light of the fact that Christ Jesus came into the world to save us, we must not let our faith slip away! **All of heaven is interested in our salvation!**
  - *Imagine a person stranded on a sinking ship in the middle of an ocean. Another ship comes by and stops to offer them help. But for some reason, the person on the struggling ship was very proud and also hateful to those who had come to help them. They said, "Ah, we don't need your help! This hole isn't so bad. We're taking on a lot of water, but don't worry! We're strong enough. If we just keep bailing out this water we can perhaps make it back to some shore on our own. We don't need your help at all. You just go away! Besides, your ship is not as pretty as our ship!" How foolish!! Could we ever imagine such a case? And yet, some are doing that with Christ Jesus! Their ships are sinking straight down to the grave and a dark eternity of nothingness, but they are willing to shun all offers of help or salvation from a God who loves them and is seeking to save them! "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?" (v.3). **"We must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard..." (v.1)!***
  - *We should not neglect the signs and evidences of the Lord! We should not neglect His word or His message of truth for our lives! (v.1,3,4). And once having heard and received, we **must NOT turn back!** "No man having put his hand to the plow and then turning back is fit for the kingdom of heaven" (Luke 9:62; see also 2 Peter 2:20-22; and "Remember Lot's wife," Luke 17:32). A number of the Jewish believers, to whom this epistle was especially written, were considering perhaps going back to Judaism apart from Christ! Such a step would be fatal! So, the apostle urges the brothers and sisters to remain faithful to Christ and to continue in the true faith! **Jesus Christ provided for us the way of salvation and there is no help outside of Him!** Turning our backs on Jesus would be turning our backs on God. He has shown us the way (John 14:6; 3:16-19). **Rejecting Christ means rejecting the very light of truth!** We'll be left in darkness if we do! **On verse 4**, by evidence of the word of God and many miracles and signs God showed that Jesus was indeed the Christ! (1 Cor. 15:3-5; Acts 2:1-8,21-24—by miracles and signs). The Cross of Christ was a miracle itself! The people in Christ's day said, "When Christ comes, will he do more miracles than these...?" (**John 7:31**).*
- **Heaven's King was made even lower than the angels for the suffering of Death for us! (v.5-9)**
  - *Christ was made lower than the angels! He became a human being so that He could suffer death for us! God cannot die!! But, a man can! Therefore, Christ became a man so*

*that He could suffer death for us! Even look at the prophecies of **Isaiah 53:4-6**. Christ, the Messiah, the Savior came into this world so that He could die for us on the cross and pay the price for our sins, which we actually deserved to die for! “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23). He laid down His life willingly for us (see John 10:17,18).*

- (v.6-8) God made man lower than the angels (Ps. 8:3-8). There was no man in the beginning. But, God created us and put us over the works of His hands at the beginning (See Gen. 2:4-5; also 1:26-28). But, because of our sin, man lost this privilege. As a result of our sin, we have now become subject to the fate of death! But, **God promised hope! (Gen. 3:14,15)**. God promised a Savior, the seed of the woman who would crush the serpent’s head. God would make a difference between His followers and Satan’s followers! Then a savior would come for us! There was yet hope given to people!
- (v.9) **We must “see Jesus!”** *Opinions are changed at the Cross! Like the centurion who said, “Truly, this man was the son of God” (Matthew 27:54). **We must see Jesus!** Like the old church woman said to the pastor who droned on every week about nothing regarding Jesus, “Sir, we would see Jesus!” She had been sick of the empty messages! But, those few words changed the pastor’s life forever! “Sir, we would see Jesus!!”*
- **At the cross, we have a full picture of God’s plan of salvation (See Luke 23:39-43).** *There were two classes represented on the crosses next to Jesus! One who would have faith and be saved from death, while the other who would mock Christ and be lost! The worldly mocker wanted his pleasures just now—right now! But, the man of faith said, Lord, Remember me WHEN you come into your Kingdom! He was the one looking for his eternal rewards in God’s timing—not his own! The world demands their quick pleasures now and today, but in the end they will be lost! Separating the saved from the lost is **Christ Jesus in the middle!** He is the one who makes all the difference in the world!! There is none like Him who can save! None can, but He!!*
- **Christ suffered for us to bring us eternal life and to save us from the fear of death! (v.10-18)**
  - (v.14-18) Christ became fully one of us, yet without sin! He took on our nature so that He could face death and suffering for us. Satan had power over death because he accused God that it would be unfair or unjust to let a single sinner live! The wages of sin is death after all. However, Christ came to pay those wages so that He could set us free and be both just and the justifier of those who believe in Him! (ref. Rom. 3:21-26). Satan wanted to hold it in the face of God that He could not save us and still be just. However, God made the way for us by paying the price of sin, at Calvary.
  - Christ took on our nature. The Divine was laid aside, so that He could bare the human nature. This mystery we cannot fully fathom! However, we should know that He overcame sin and we are called to do even as He has done! (Rev. 3:21). By the grace and power of God **we can be partakers of the Divine nature** through Christ and we can also be delivered from sin’s power in our lives by Christ’s power (2 Peter 1:4). We can be sanctified through Him and made holy by His help!

*Question (s) for the Heart:*

**Would you like to trust in the saving power Jesus and to receive eternal life and holiness? \_\_\_\_\_**