

NEGLECTING OUR GREAT DELIVERANCE
Hebrews 2:1-4

INTRODUCTION:

- A. God spoke to the fathers
 - 1) He spoke in different times
 - 2) He spoke in different ways
 - 3) He spoke to them through angels

- B. God has now spoken to us by His Son
 - 1) He is superior to angels
 - 2) His message must be heard
 - 3) It must not be ignored

I. The Danger Stated verse 1

- A. *"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed..."*
 - 1) "Because we have the truth given in Christ"
 - 2) "earnest" = περισσῶς = "more abundantly"
 - 3) "heed" = προσεχω = "to turn one's mind"
 - 4) "Since all this is true, we ought to pay much closer attention than ever" - Amp.

- B. *"...to the things which we have heard..."*
 - 1) "To the message once heard"
 - 2) "To the truth that we have heard"

- C. *"...lest at any time we should let them slip."*
 - 1) "For fear of drifting from our course..." - NEB
 - 2) "slip" = παραρρω = "to flow by"

The word was used to describe a river that flows by a place or flows aside from its normal channel in the sense of flooding or escaping its channel. It was used of something slipping from one's memory or of a ring slipping from one's finger or of a crumb going down the wrong way. It also indicated a ship drifting away.

D. Truth never drifts!

II. Those Who Drifted Then Were Punished verse 2

A. *"For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast..."*

- 1) *"steadfast"* = βεβαιος = "firm", "sure", "dependable"
- 2) Gods word does not drift!
- 3) *"For if the word uttered through angels stood firm"*

B. *"...and every transgression and disobedience..."*

- 1) *"transgression"* = παραβασις = "a stepping aside"
- 2) *"disobedience"* = παρακοη = "neglect or refusal to hear"
"that which has been heard amiss" The sin of omission,
carelessness in regard to one's duty.
- 3) *"For every time (they) stepped aside from it and every
time they refused to listen"*
- 4) *Matthew 13:13-16, 20-22*

C. *"...received a just recompense of reward"*

- 1) *"received"* = λαμβανω = "to receive"
- 2) *"just"* = ευδιδος = "that which conforms to right"
- 3) *"recompense"* = μισθαποδοσια = "giving back with payment",
"retribution" The word indicates a full recompense as
'punishment.
- 4) *"Led to a corresponding penalty"*

III. We Cannot Avoid Being Punished verse 3

A. *"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?"*

- 1) *"escape"* = εκφευγω = "to flee out of"
- 2) *"neglect"* = αμελεω = "not to care", "to be negligent"
- 3) *"What makes us think that we can get by! If we ignore or
treat lightly so great a deliverance!"*

B. An example from the Bible

- 1) *Exodus 19:1-6* - What God did - *Deuteronomy 32:7-15*
- 2) What Israel did - *Deuteronomy 32:15-35*

IV. The Truth We Have Has Come From God

A. *"which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord,"*

- 1) "Which was originally proclaimed by the Lord himself" Mof
- 2) "The Lord (Jesus) told us this truth Himself!"

B. *"...and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him."*

- 1) "confirmed" = βεβαιωω = "to corroborate", "to establish by arguments or proofs"
- 2) "And then it was proven to us to be valid by the very men who heard Him themselves" - Wms.

V. How Was The Truth Confirmed? verse 4

A. *"God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders"*

- 1) "bearing witness" = συνεπιμαρτυρω = "to witness together with someone, give additional testimony"
- 2) "signs" = σημειον = "that which identifies"
- 3) "wonders" = τερας = "a supernatural event"

B. *"...and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost"*

- 1) "divers" = ποικιλος = "variegated", "all kinds"
- 2) "miracles" = δυναμις = "divine power"
- 3) "gifts" = μερισμος = "distribution"
- 4) "Distribution by the Holy Spirit"

C. *"...according to His own will"*

- 1) "As He saw fit"
- 2) "As He wanted to distribute them"
- 3) Spiritual gifts were in the church

VI. Where We Stand

A. Israel was delivered from bondage

- 1) They were initially joyful
- 2) They became disobedient and negligent
- 3) God punished them

B. We have experienced a great deliverance

- 1) We were initially joyful
- 2) We have become negligent and disobedient
- 3) God will punish us

